

Timeless Scans

discord.gg/Y6JnxxR

ちちこぐさ

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ちちこ ぐさ



【父子草】



田川
ミ

8

ちちこぶさ*

【父子草】



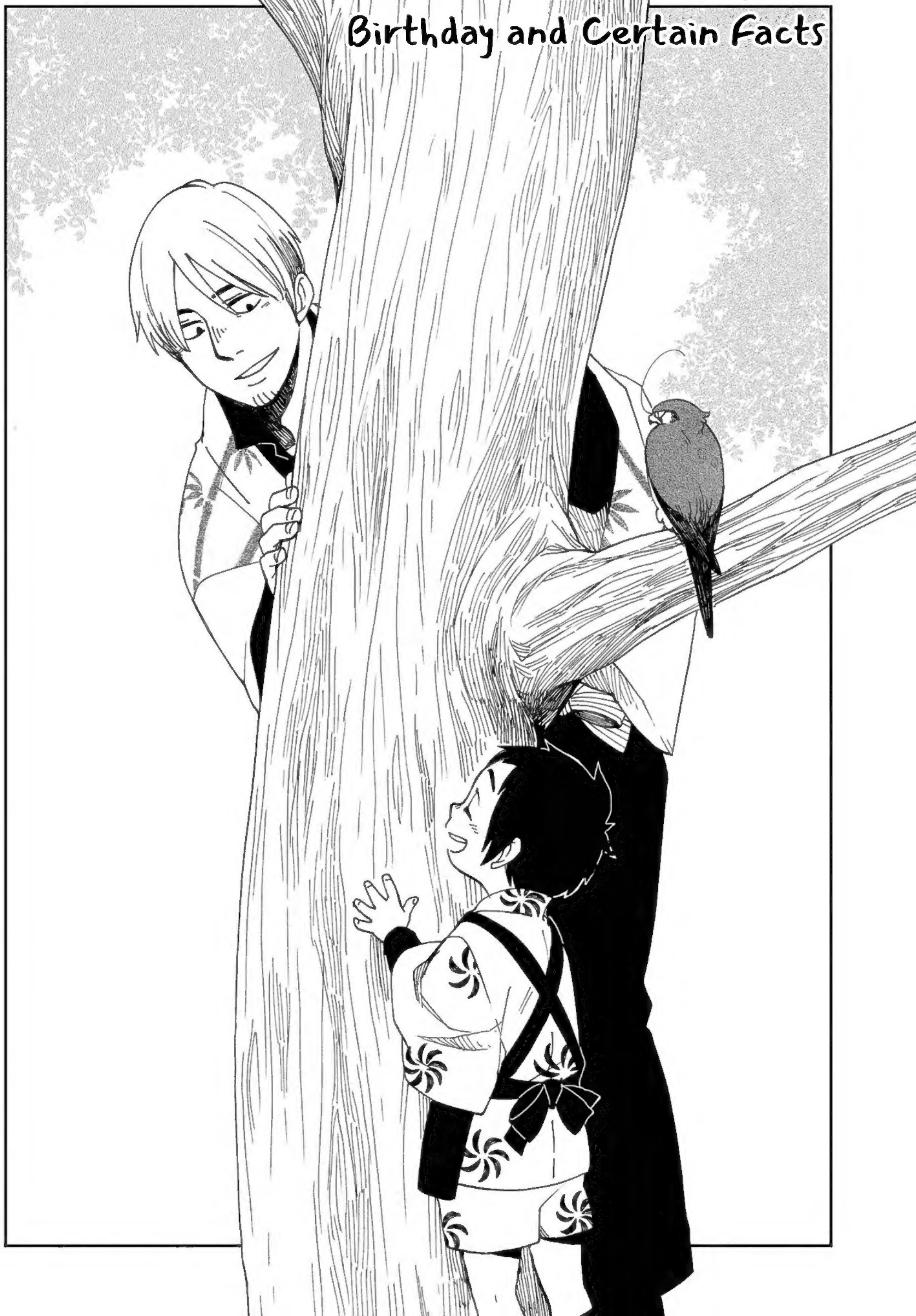


CHAPTER 43: BIRTHDAY AND CERTAIN FACTS
CHAPTER 44: THINKING OF CHILDREN AND A FATHER'S HEART
CHAPTER 45: INOSUKE THE MEDICINE SELLER
CHAPTER 46: HAPPY REUNION
CHAPTER 47: SHIROU'S DETERMINATION
CHAPTER 48: DEPARTURE

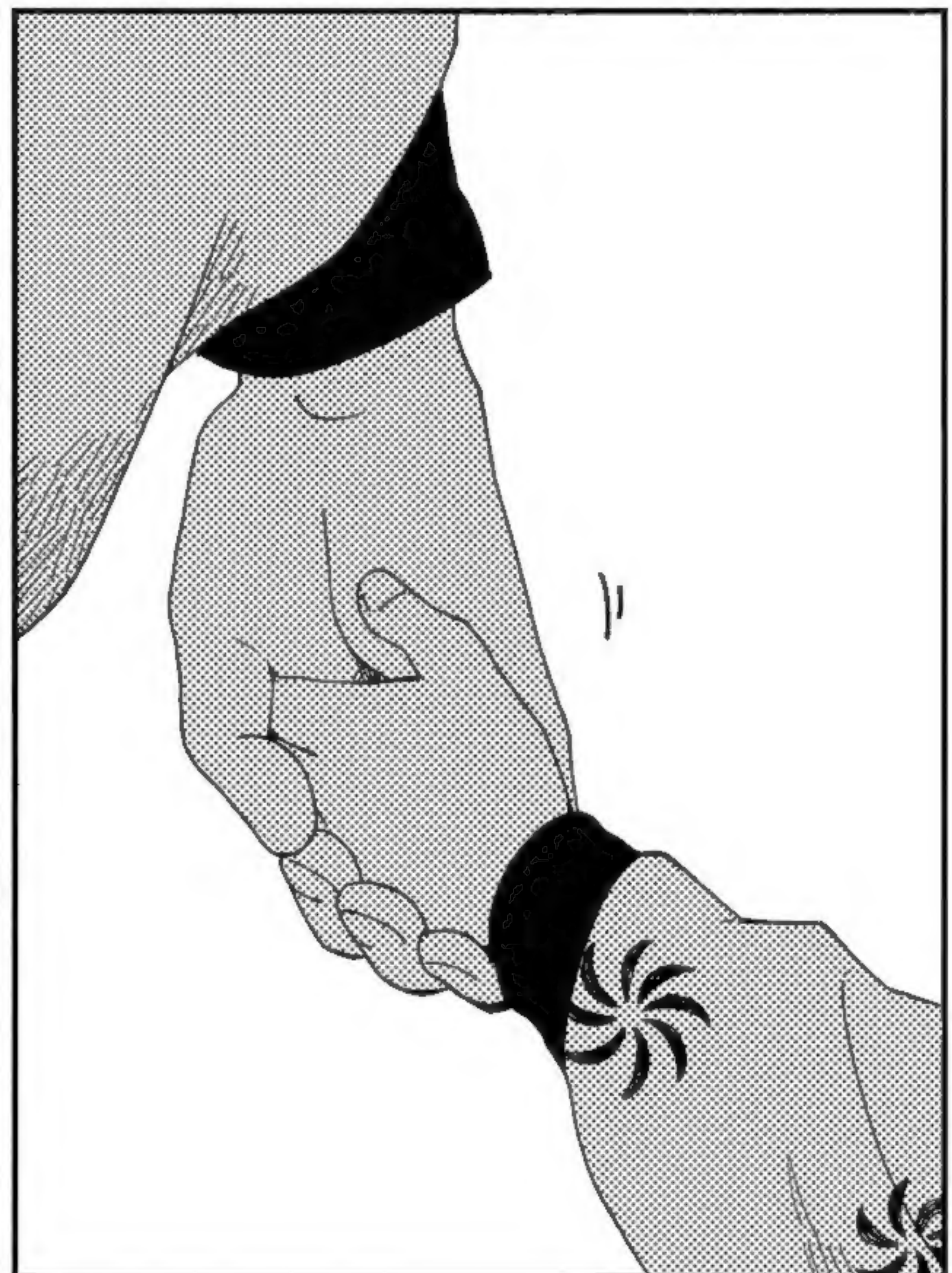




Birthday and Certain Facts









REALLY?!

HMM...

IF THERE'S
ANYTHING
YOU WANT,
I'LL BUY IT
FOR YOU.

THEN...

DO YOU
WANT A
BOOK?

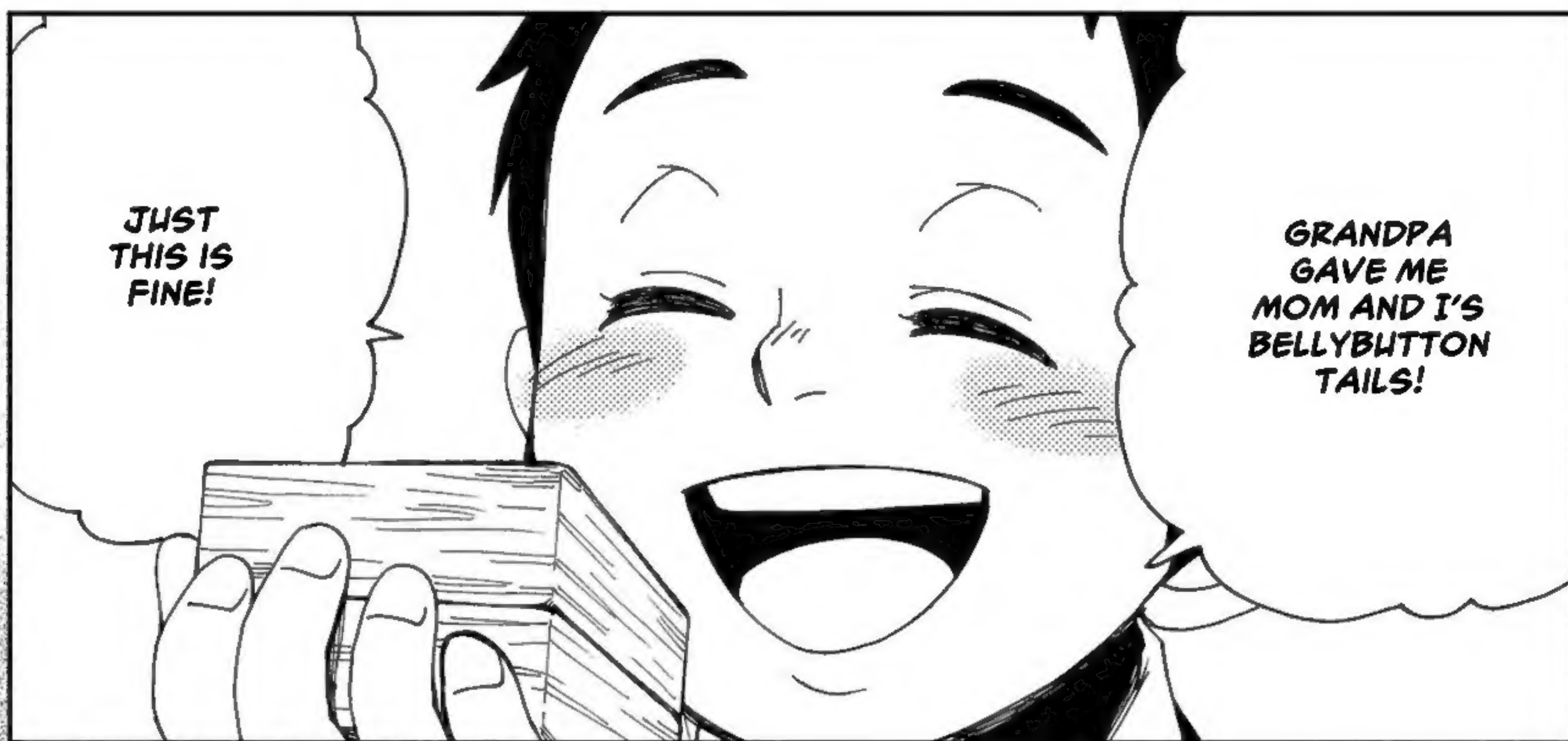


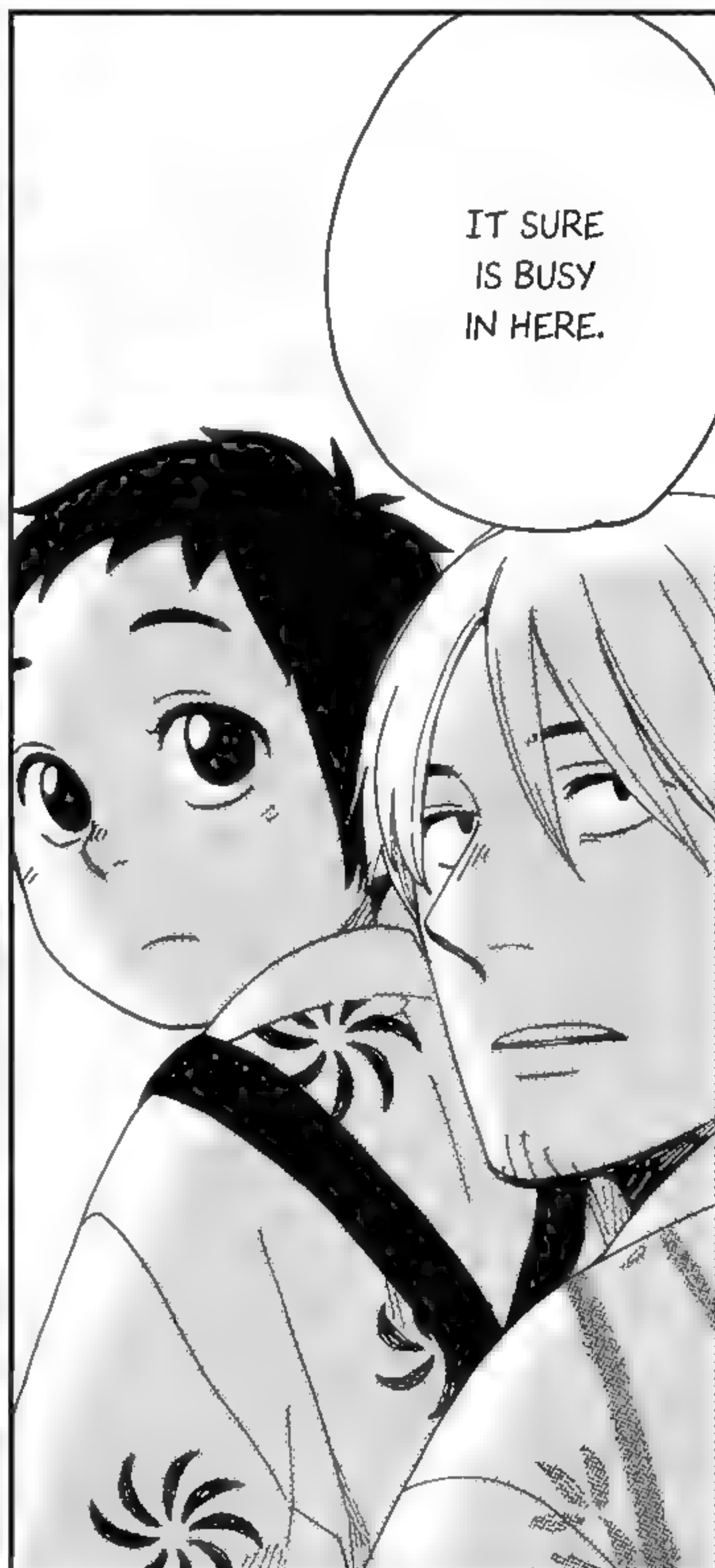
THERE'S
NOTHING
I WANT,
AFTER ALL!



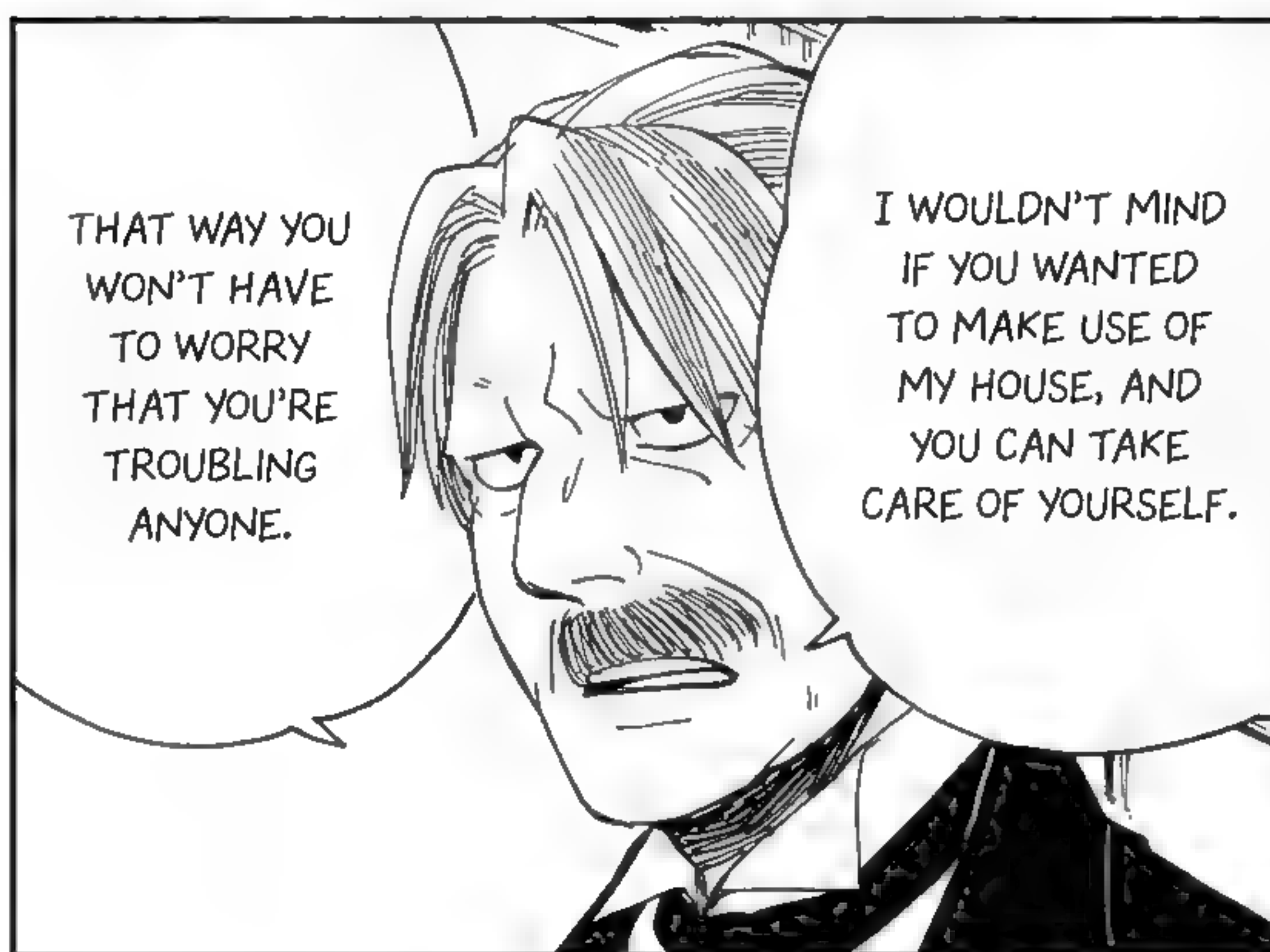
HM?

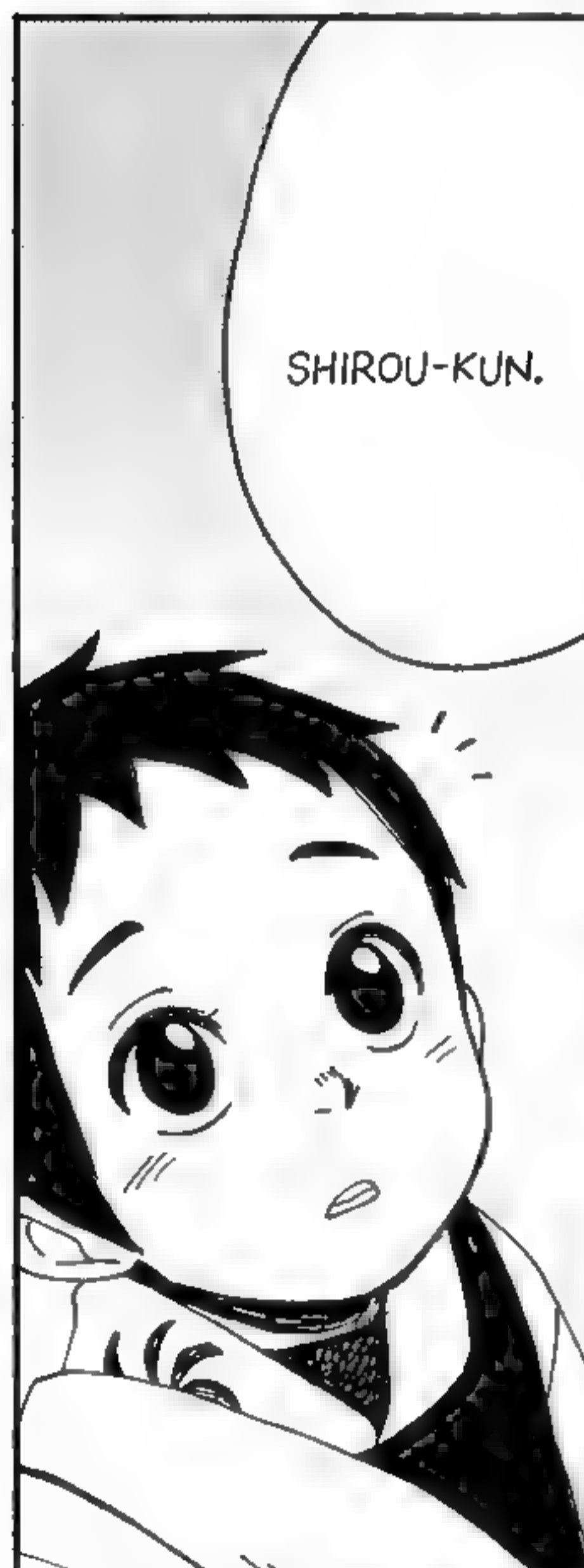
HMM...











SHIROU-KUN.



YES,
MASTER.

KIHACHI,
THAT THING
WE TALKED
ABOUT.



RIGHT,
THANK YOU FOR
EVERYTHING
YOU'VE DONE.

UNTIL
NEXT
TIME,
THEN.

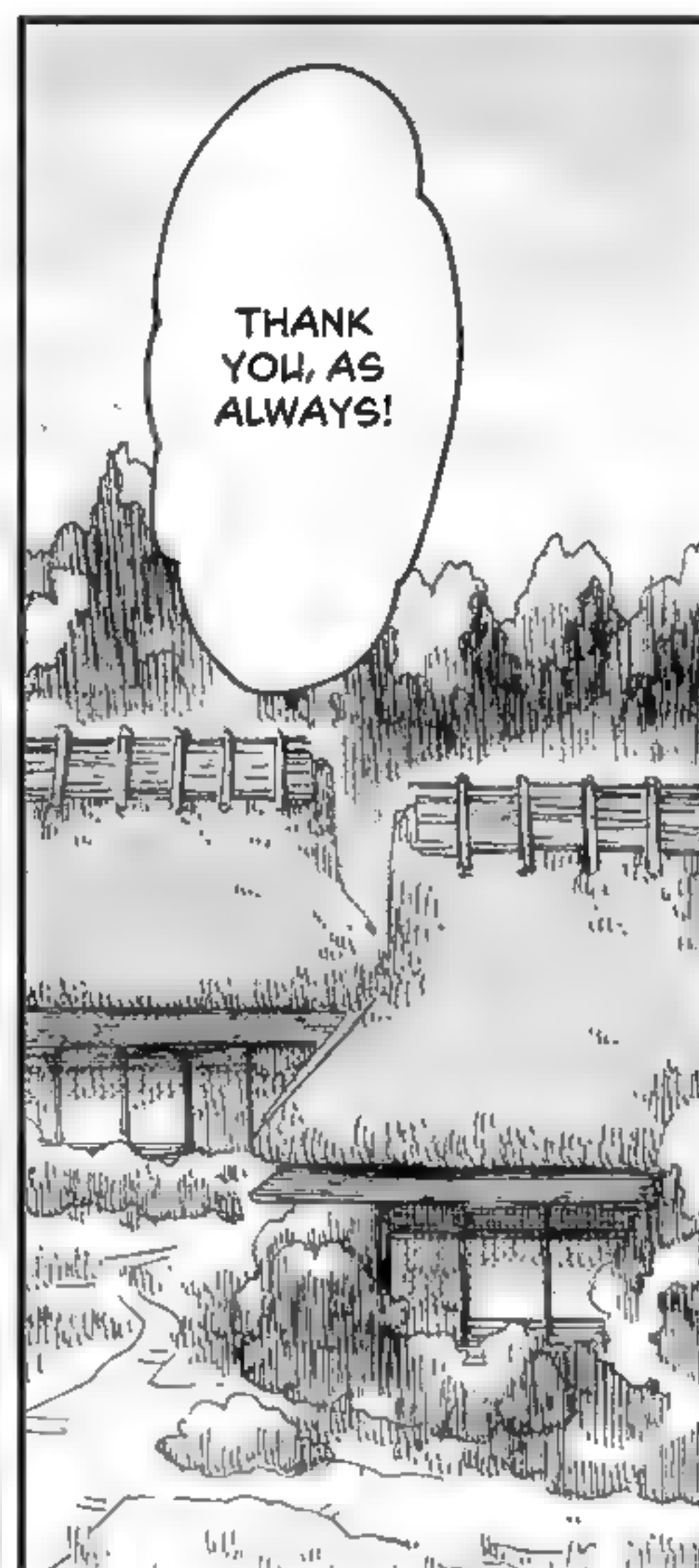
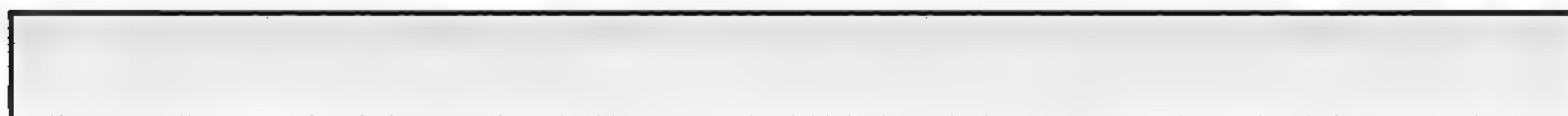
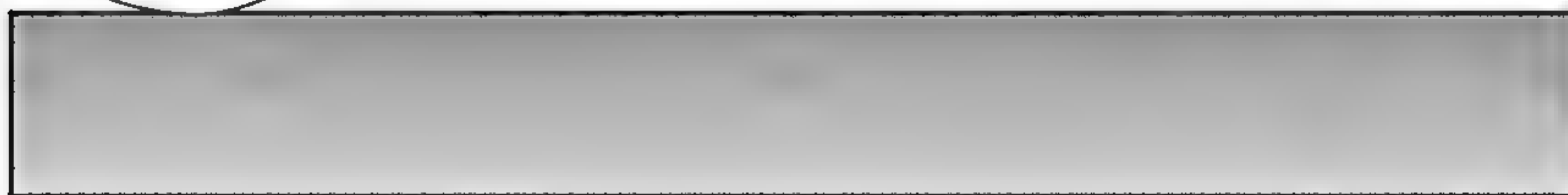
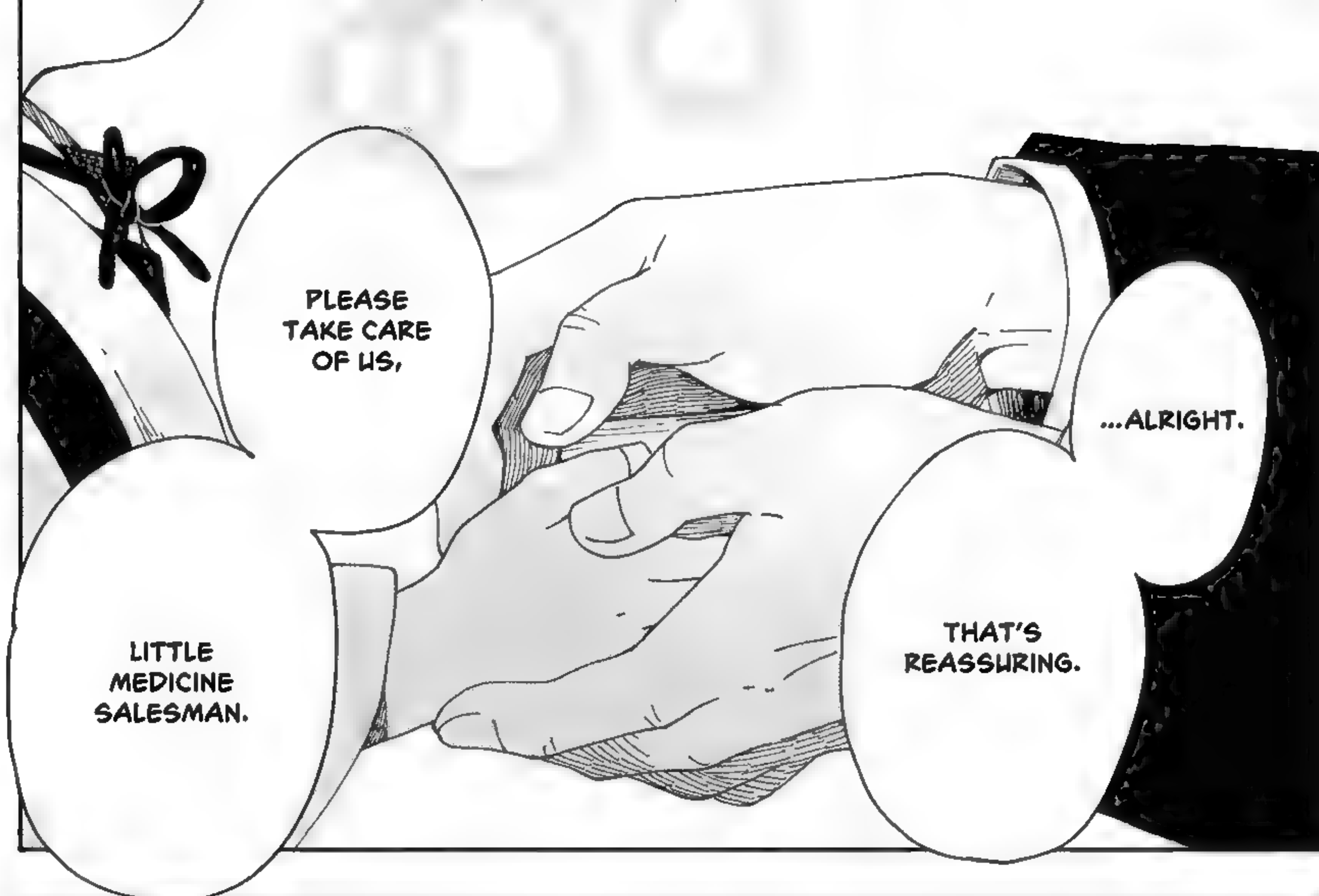


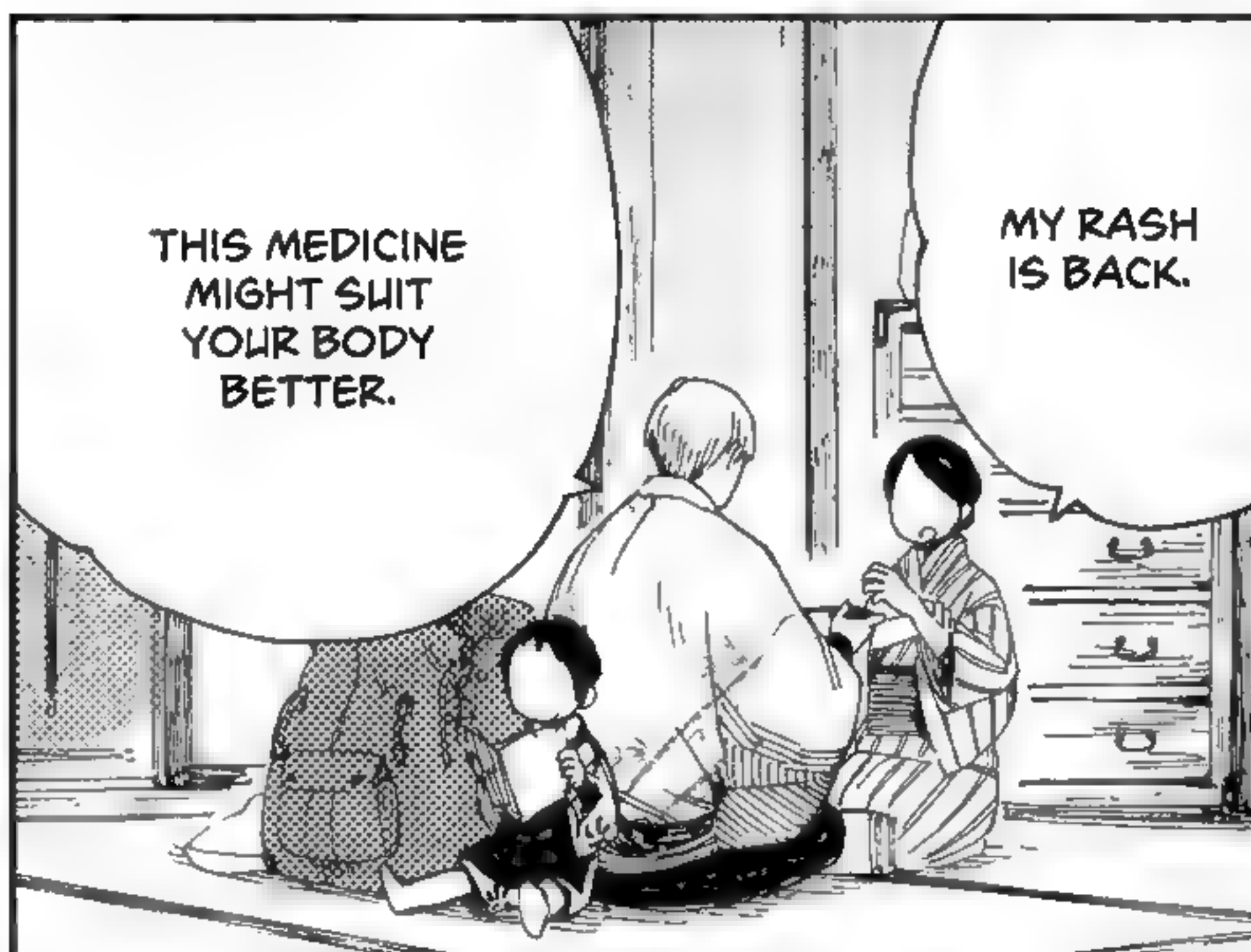
THE
UMBILICAL
CORD THAT
CONNECTED
YOU TO YOUR
MOTHER.

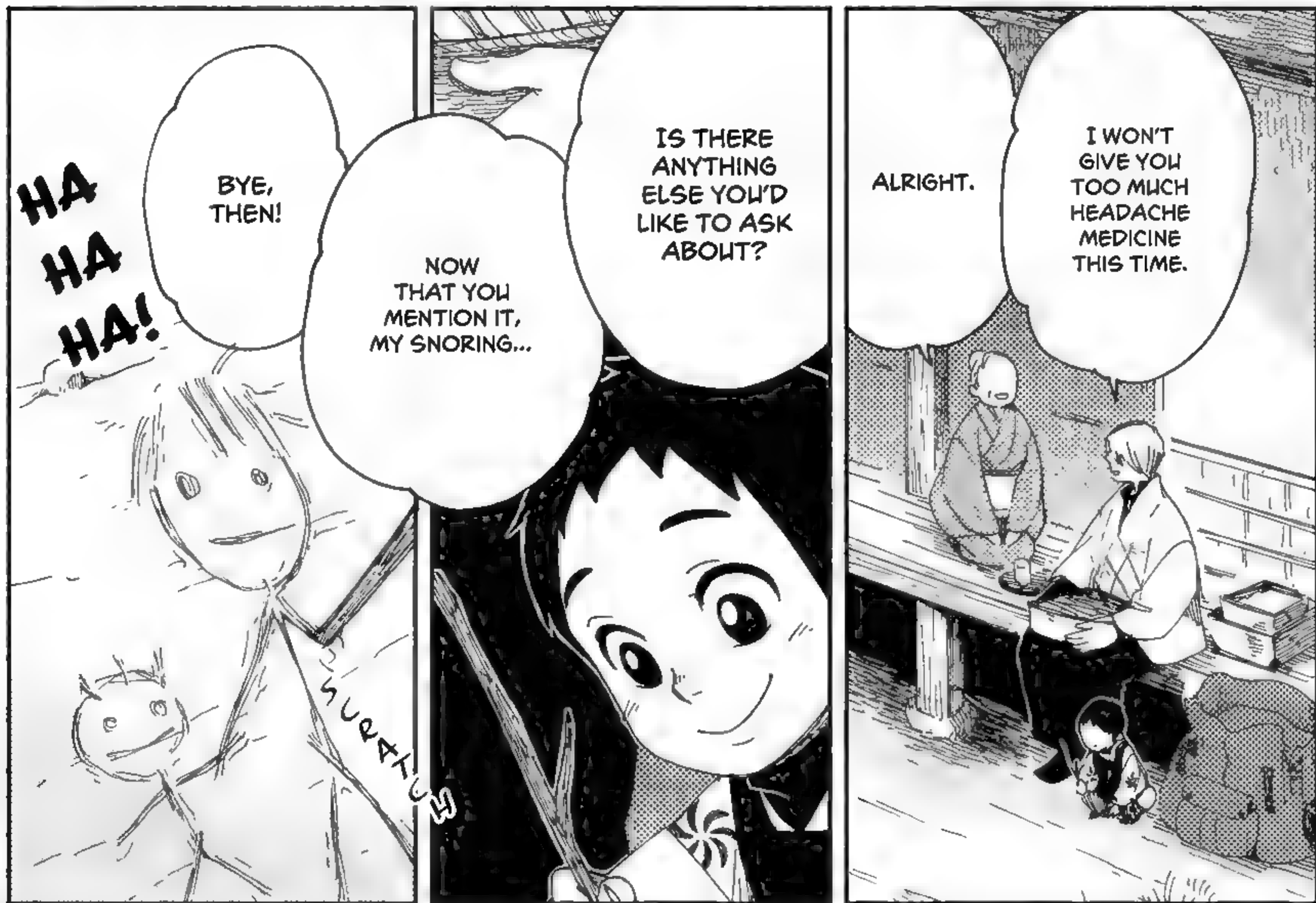


HERE.













MAYBE I
SHOULD JUST
SWALLOW MY
PRIDE AND GO
VISIT NEE-CHAN...

IS IT
OKAY TO
LEAVE
SHIROU
AT THE
STORE?



I'M STILL
WORRIED...



MAYBE I'LL
MAKE SOME
TIME FOR US TO
PLAY TOGETHER
TOMORROW
MORNING.

chirp
chirp
chirp

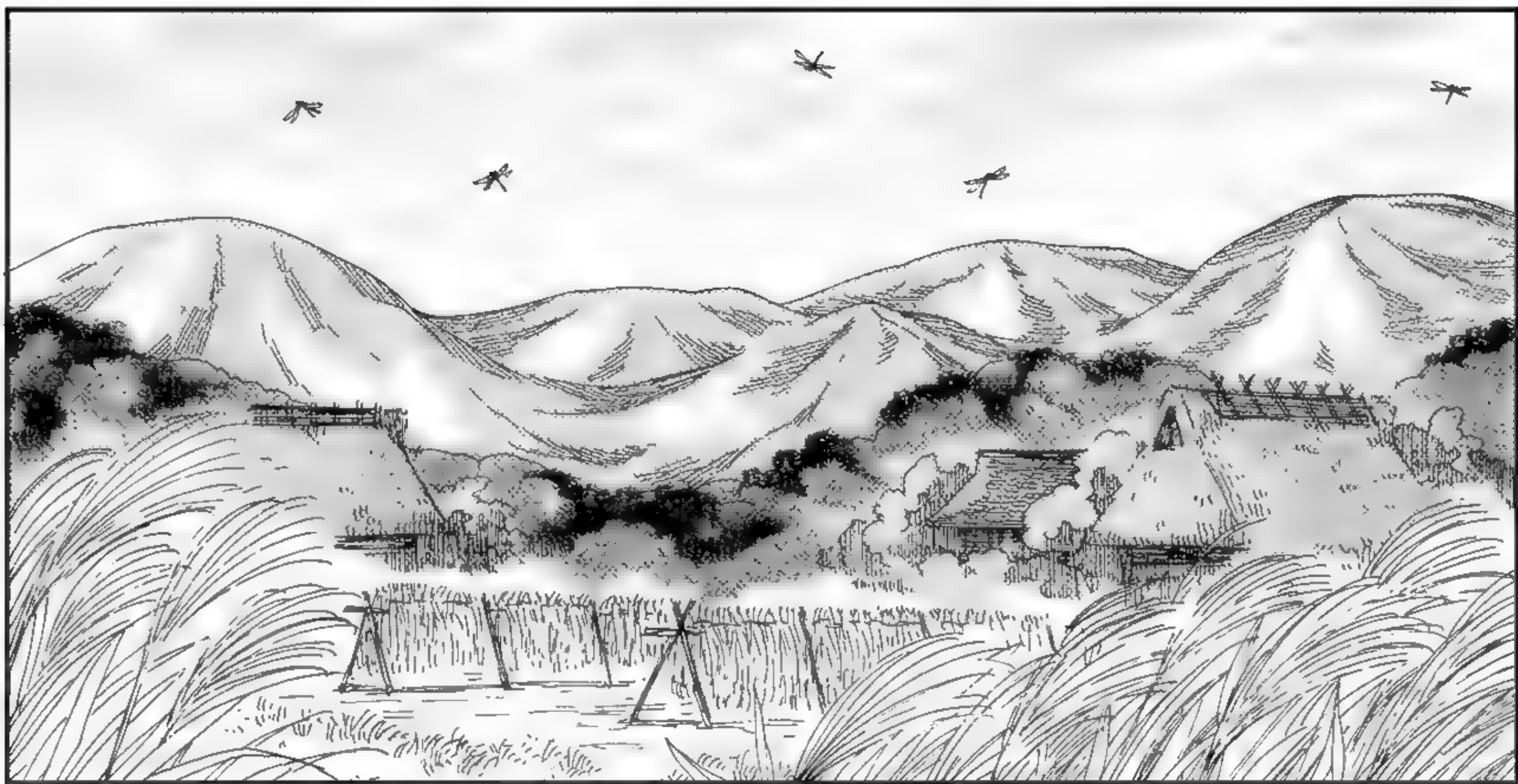


AFTER I
PROMISED
THAT WE'D
ALWAYS STAY
TOGETHER...

I'M SORRY,
SHIROU.



NO
MATTER
WHAT I
DO, I'M
PROBABLY
GOING TO
HAVE TO
LEAVE HIM
AGAIN.

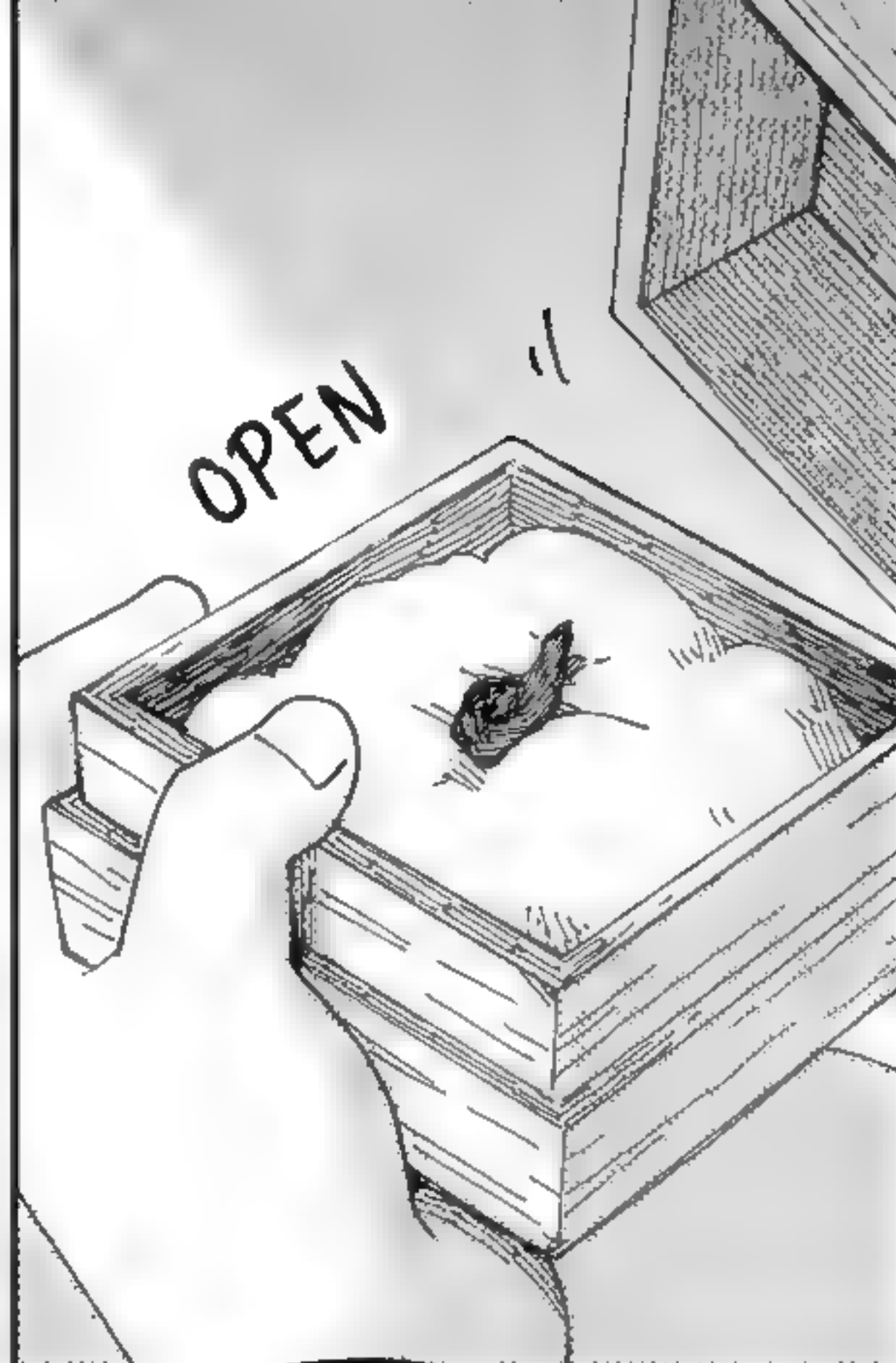






GRANDPA
GAVE ME
MY BELLY
BUTTON
TAIL.

MOM,
MOM!
LOOK AT
THIS!



DOES THAT
MEAN THAT THIS
CAN CONNECT
ME TO DAD?

HE SAID THIS
CONNECTED
ME TO YOU.



I DON'T REALLY
WANNA GROW
UP YET.



Sneak

I'M
GONNA
BE 5
SOON.



mumble
mumble



PLEASE, MOM.

I DON'T NEED
ANYTHING FOR
MY BIRTHDAY,

AS LONG AS I
CAN BE WITH
DAD FOREVER.

SFX: suddenly

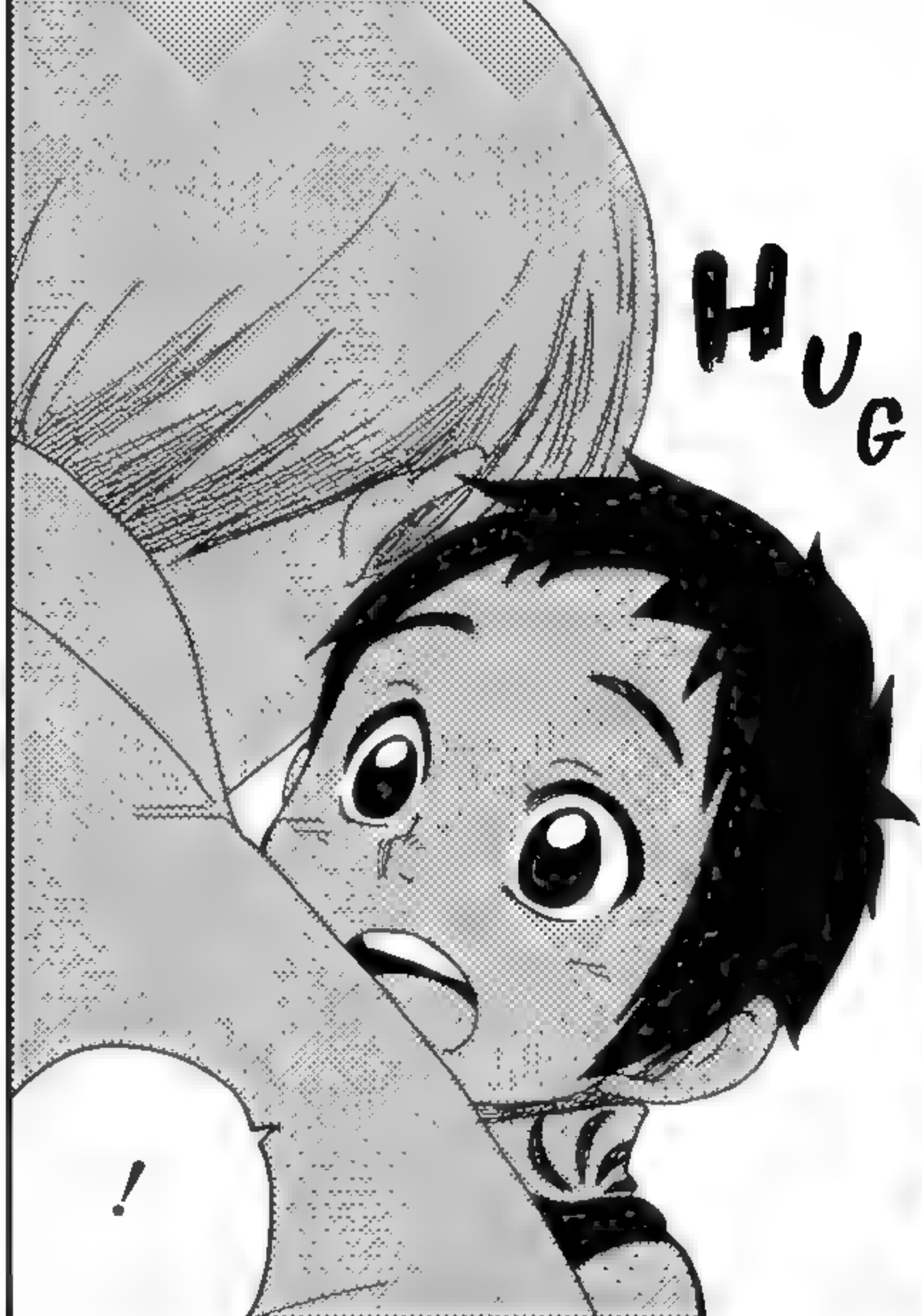


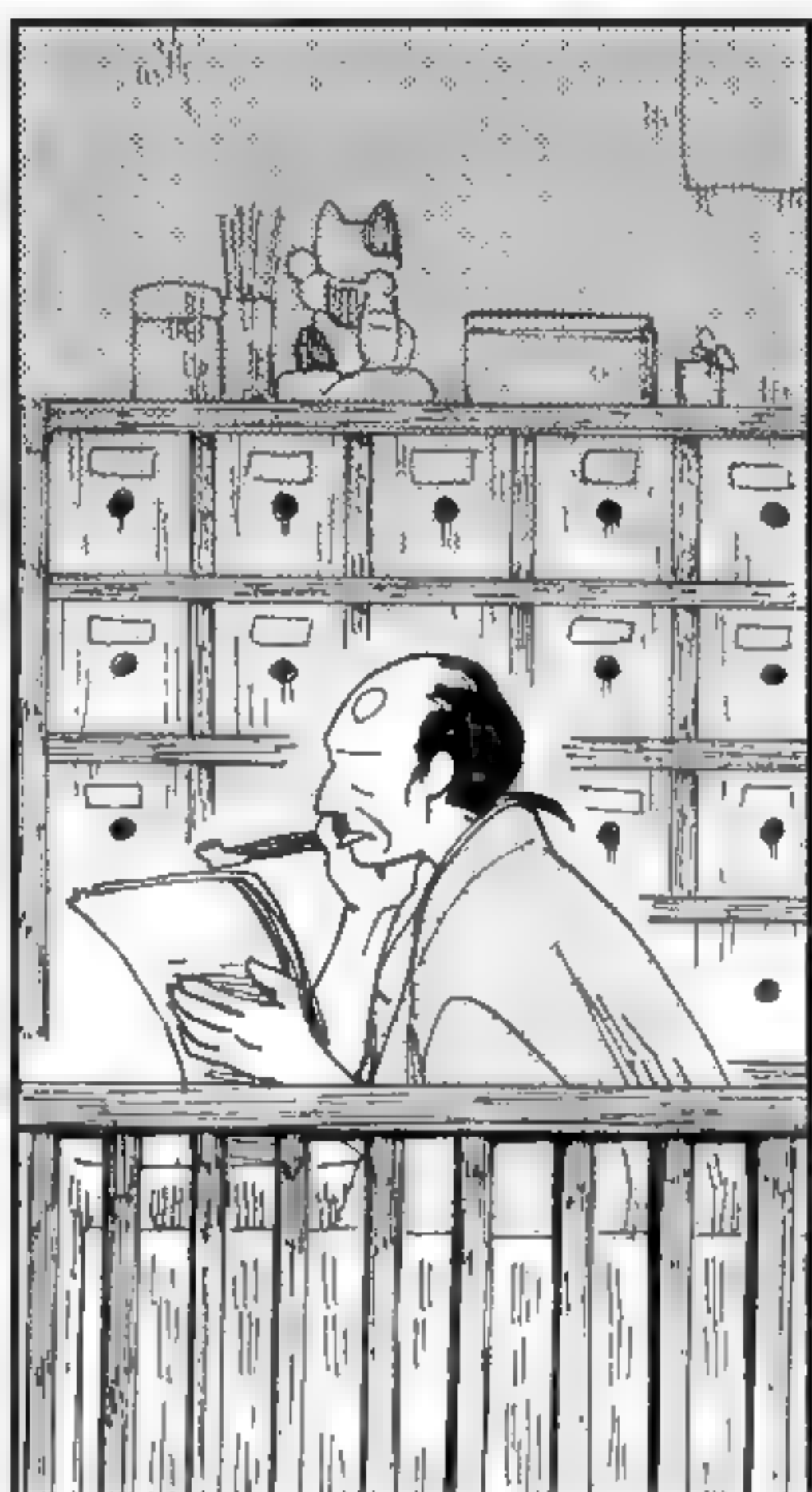
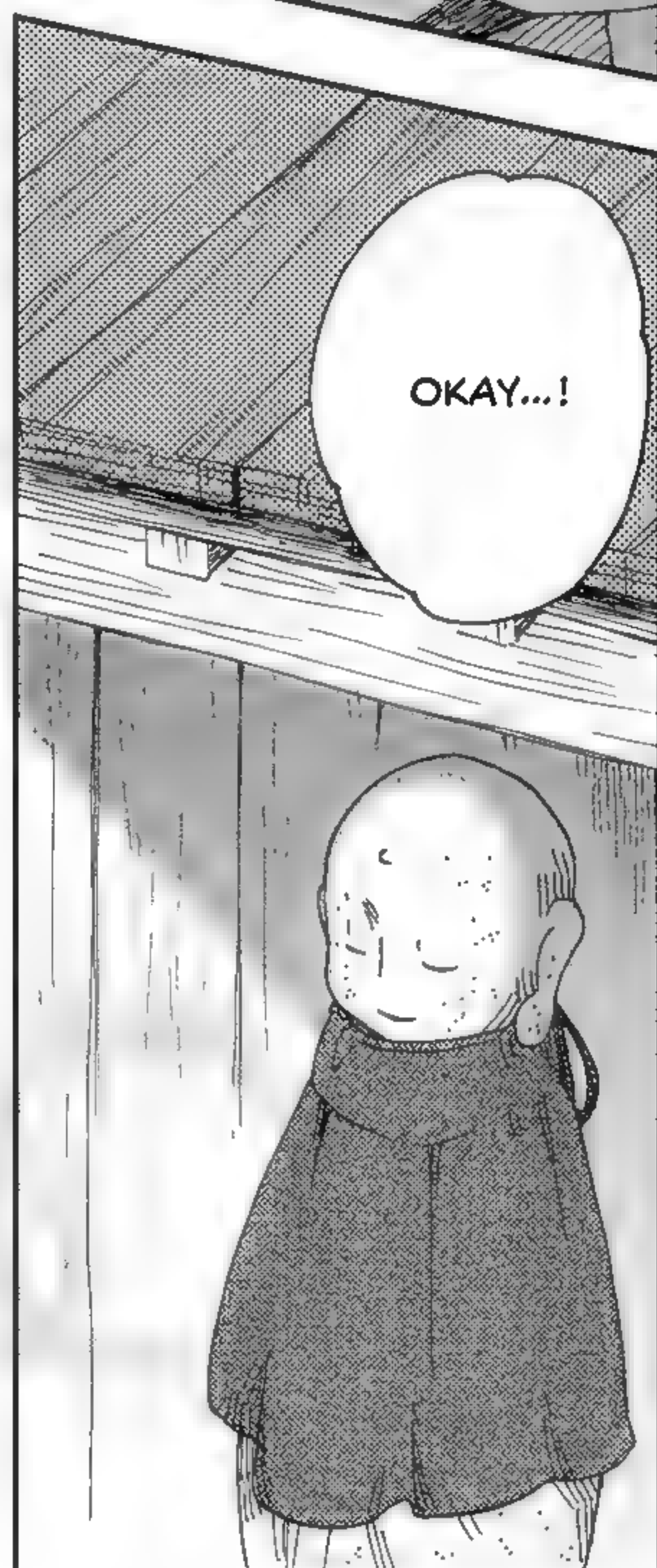
KYAA!!

**THERE
YOU
ARE!!**



...





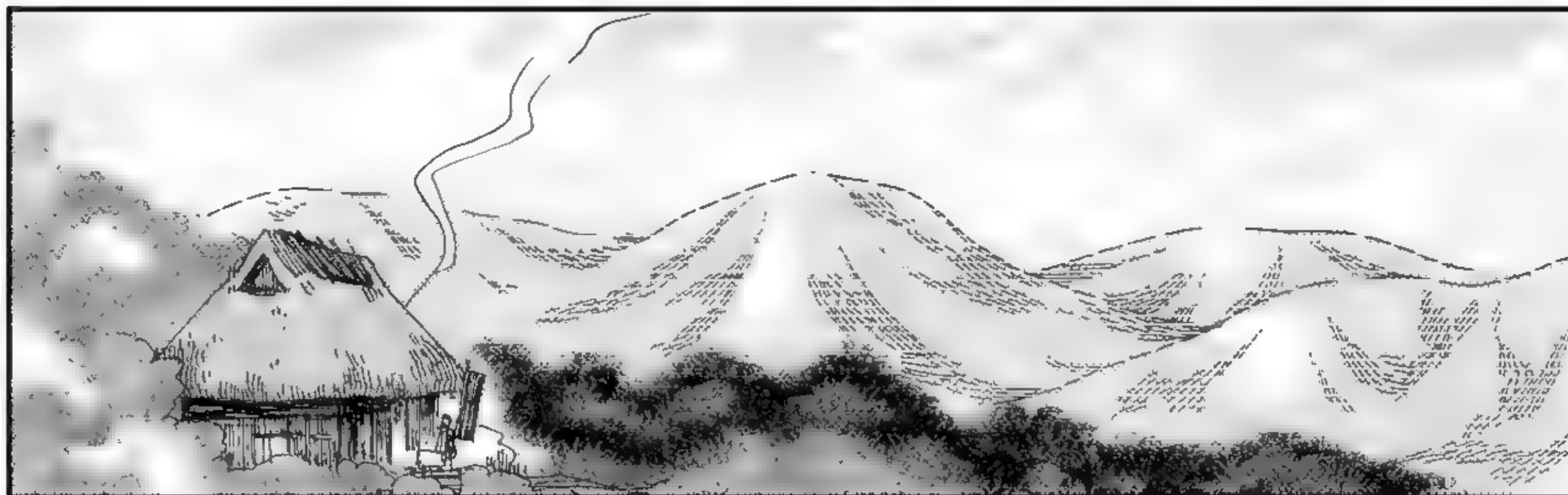


YO!



WHAT'S THIS?

FINALLY
DECIDED TO
COME BACK,
HUH?



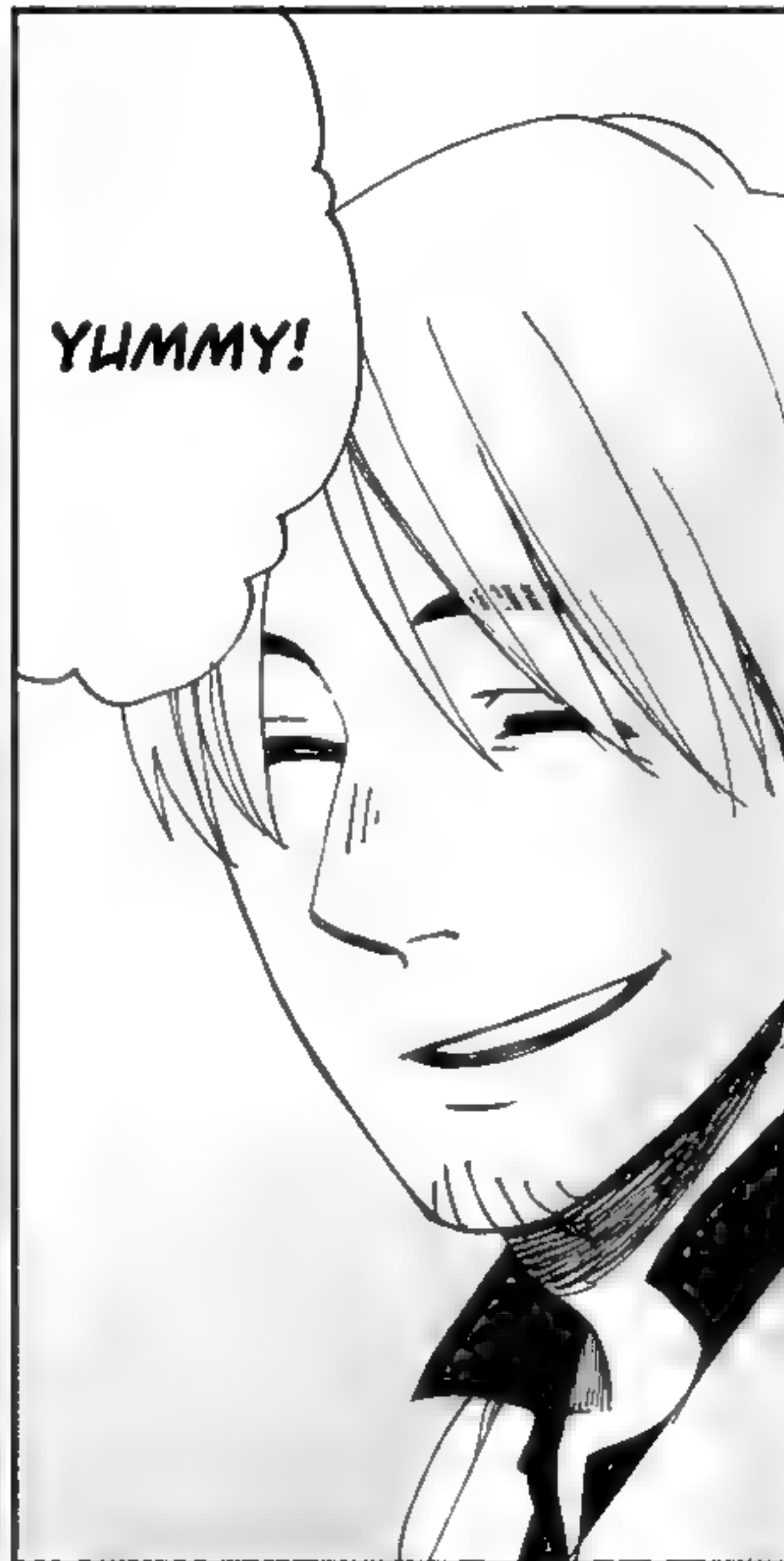
I'M GONNA
EAT DANGO
UNTIL I'M
ALL FULL!!



IT IS YOUR
BIRTHDAY,
AFTER ALL.

IS IT
REALLY
OKAY FOR
ME TO EAT
ANOTHER
ONE?!

YAAAY!













WHAT?!

HE'S GONNA
RETIRE NEXT
YEAR.

HASN'T HE
TOLD YOU
THAT HE'S
PASSING HIS
WORK DOWN
TO YOU?

I'M
HELPING
OUT, TOO.



PLEASE
TELL
HIM!!

NOW THAT
YOU MENTION
IT, I FORGOT!

That's
no
good!



HEY,
INOSUKE.



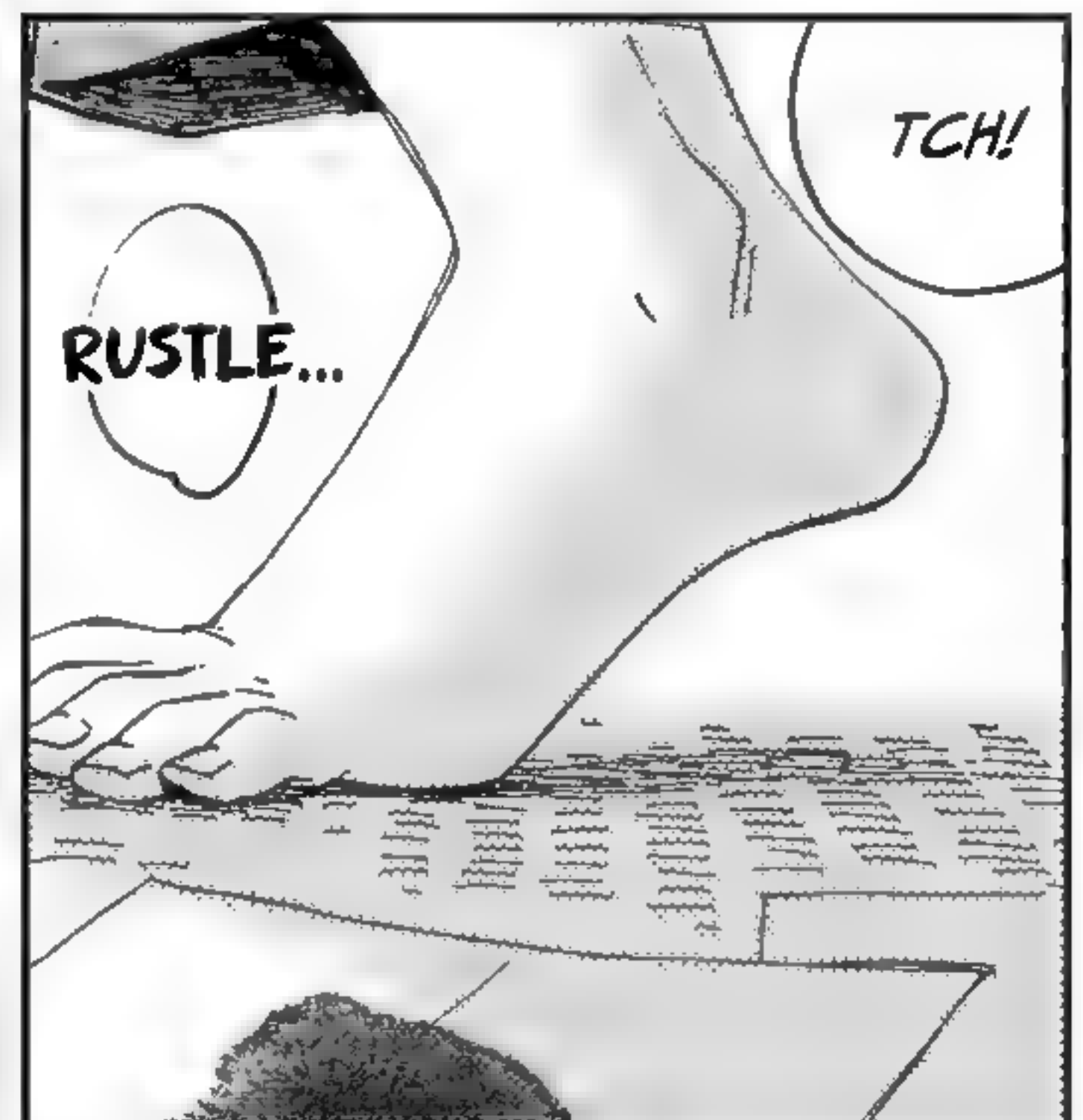
I JUST WANT TO MAKE
SURE OF ONE THING; YOU
DID PROPERLY TELL HIM
ABOUT YOUR RETIREMENT,
RIGHT? I WAS SURPRISED
WHEN YOU SAID YOU
WANTED TO TELL HIM
YOURSELF.

OH?



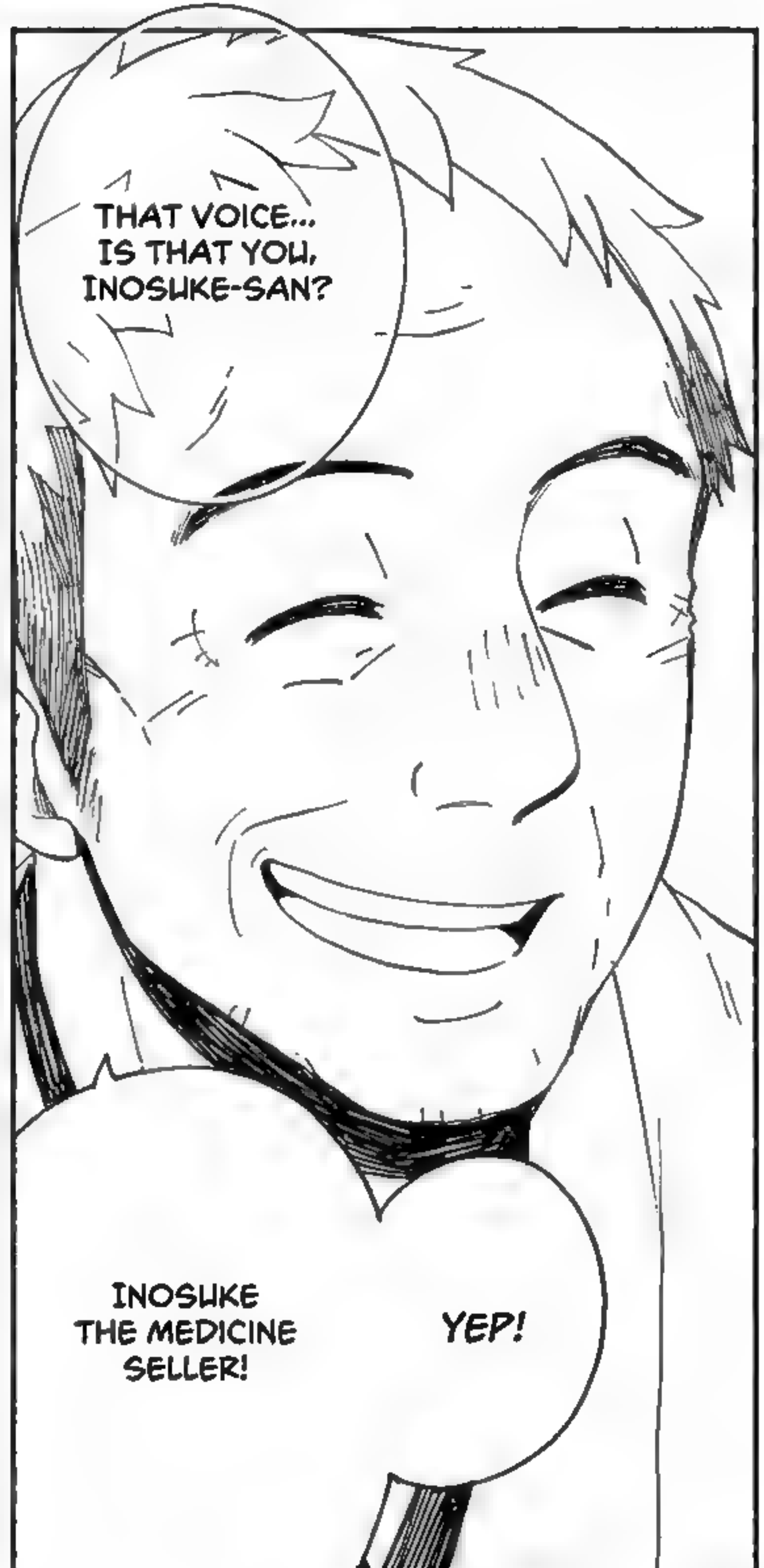






THE PAPERS ALL SAY "KOROKU, AGE X" WITH DIFFERENT YEARS.



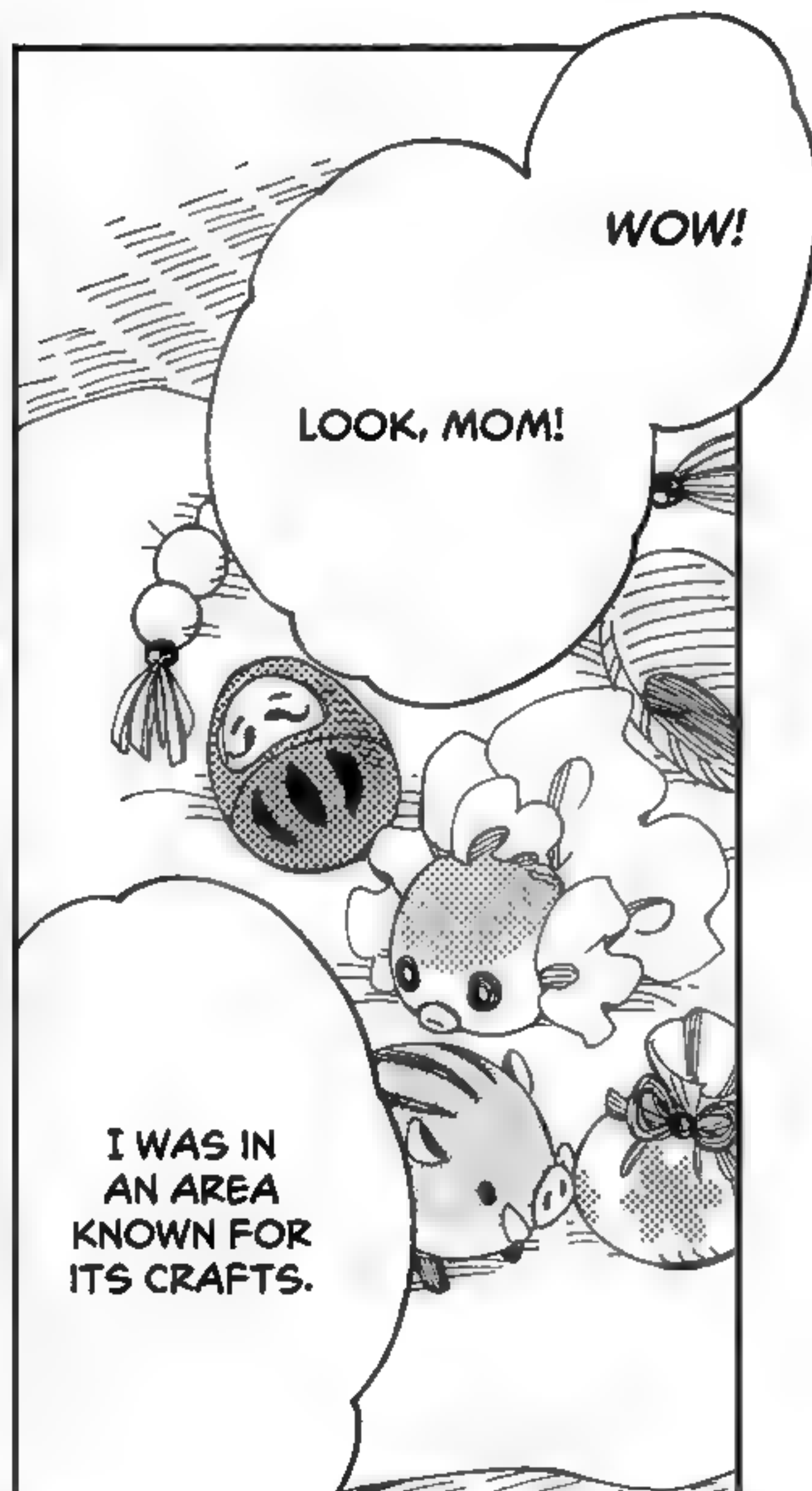




IT'S NO
PROBLEM.
I LOOK
FORWARD
TO IT, TOO.



THANK YOU
AS ALWAYS,
INOSUKE-SAN.



WOW!

LOOK, MOM!

I WAS IN
AN AREA
KNOWN FOR
ITS CRAFTS.



TODAY I
BROUGHT
SOME GIFTS
FROM YOUR
"FRIEND"!

FRI... END...?



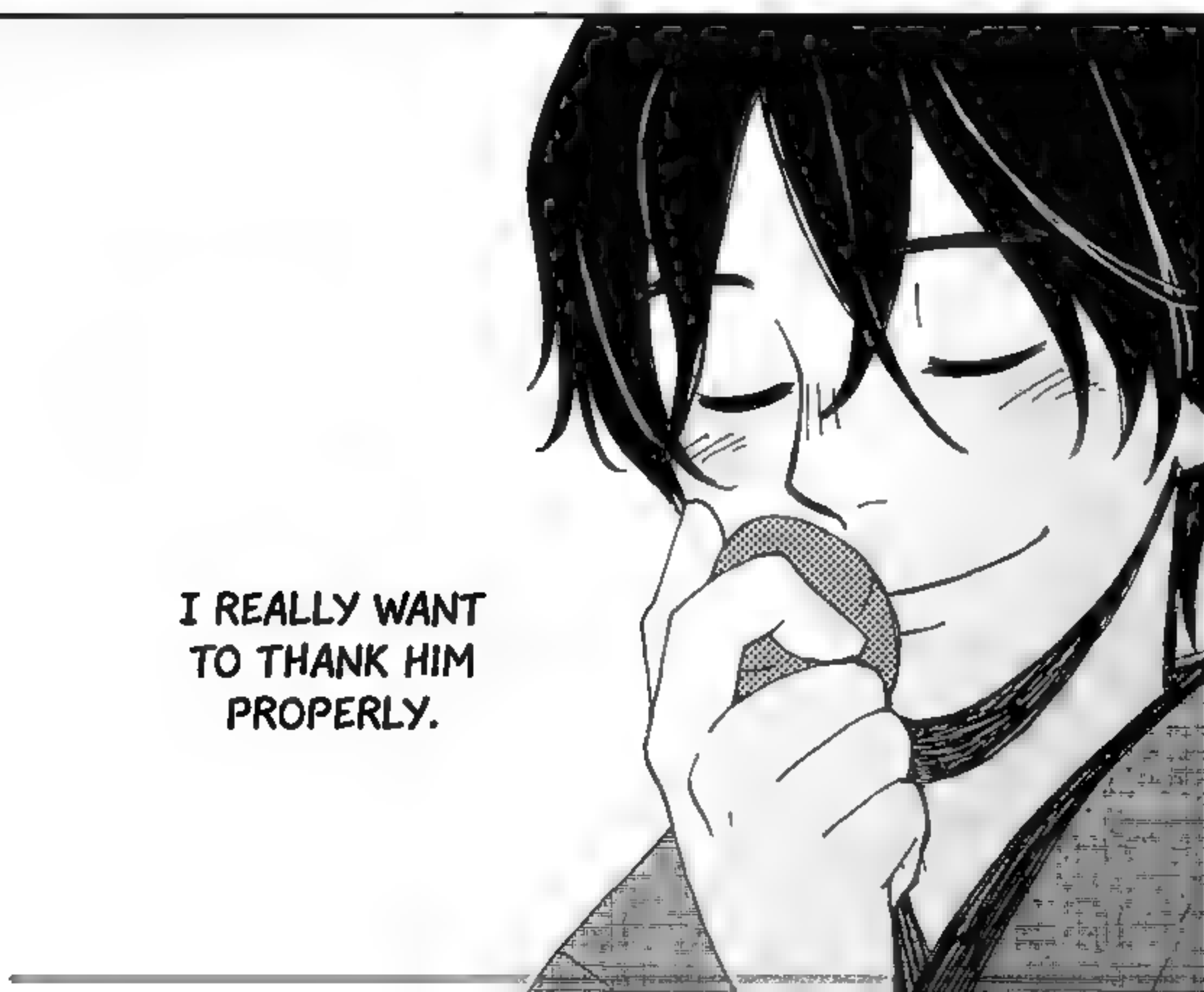
IT'S NICE TO
MEET YOU,
KOROKU-
BOCCHAN.

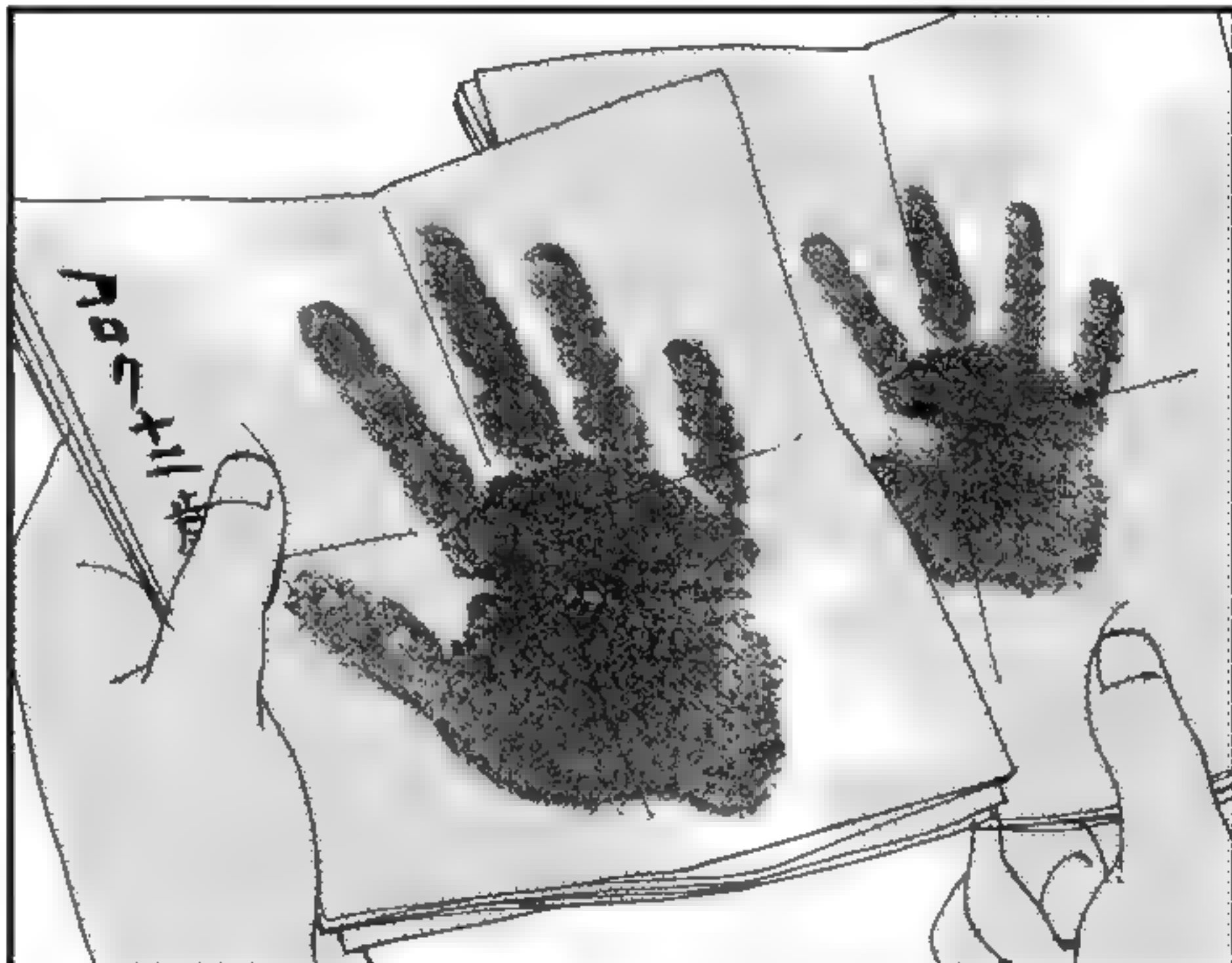
Ever
since I
was 3,

Inosuke-san
would visit
and bring me
presents a few
times a year.









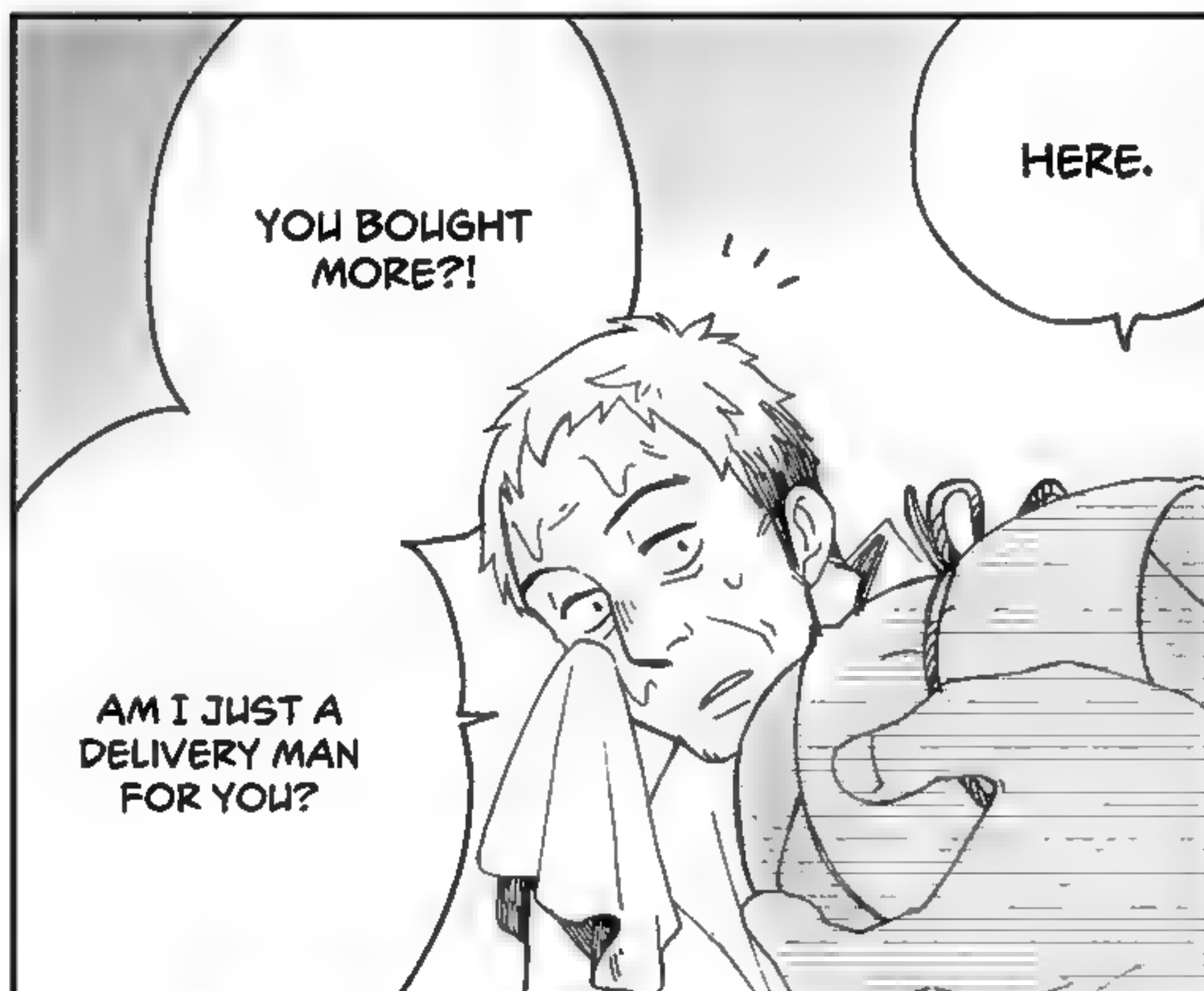
MY "FRIEND"
THAT I'VE
NEVER SEEN...





SFX: Tremble tremble





YOU BOUGHT MORE?!

HERE.

AM I JUST A DELIVERY MAN FOR YOU?



IF IT WASN'T ABOUT KOROKU, I WOULDN'T HAVE WAITED.

THAT'S HOT!!



HUH?! YOU WANT ME TO GO...?

WHY DON'T YOU TRY JUST SENDING A LETTER THIS TIME?

YOU SHOULD COME SEE HIM, TOO.

KOROKU-CHAN'S ROOM IS STARTING TO LOOK LIKE A CRAFT STORE WITH ALL THE THINGS YOU'VE GOTTEN FOR HIM.



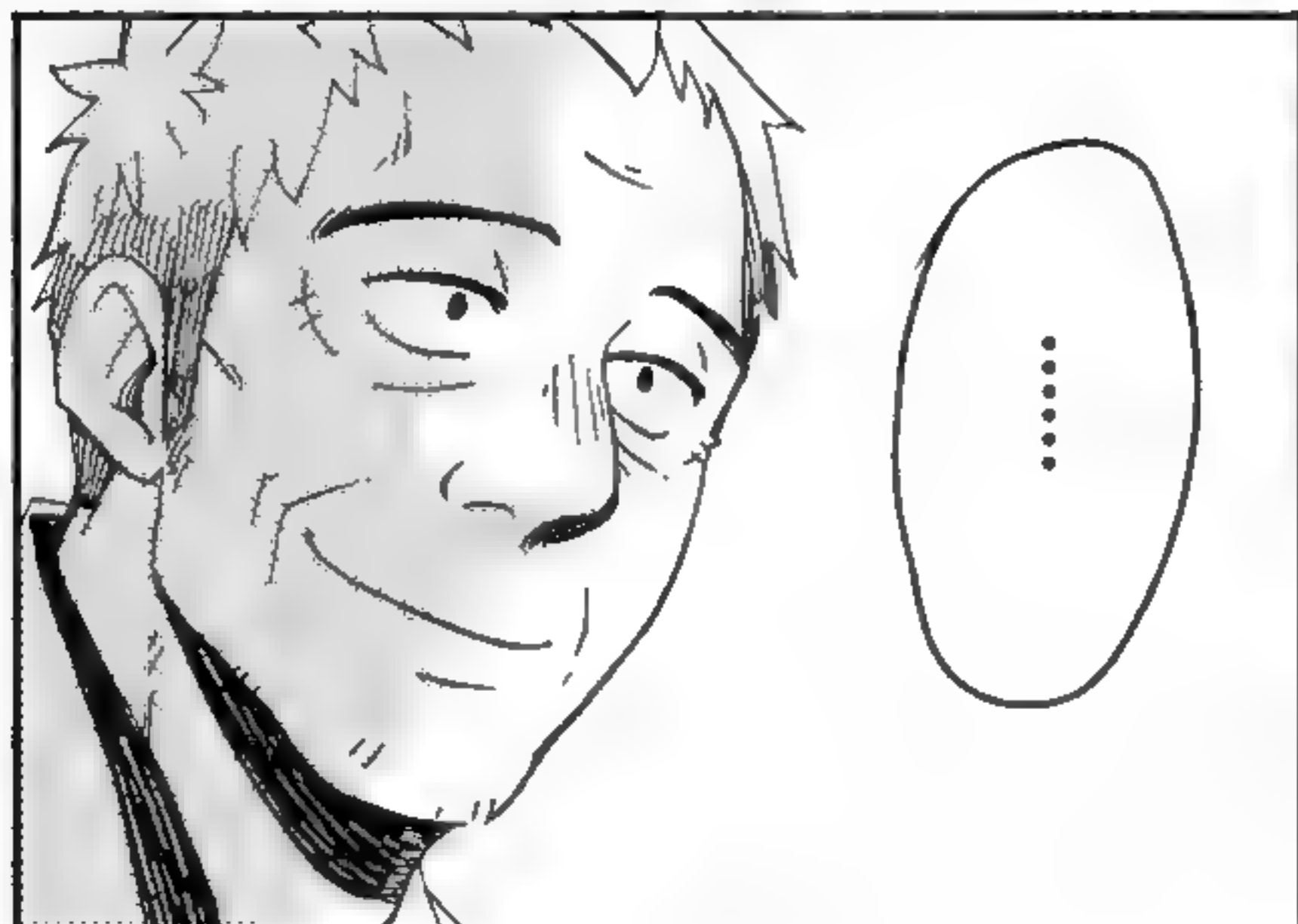
HE EVEN GOT TALLER AGAIN.

KOROKU-CHAN IS DOING WELL.



IT'S KIND OF THE SAME THING AS WHEN I TELL HIM THE STORIES ABOUT THE THINGS YOU BOUGHT.

I DON'T WANT HIM TO KNOW I EXIST, THOUGH. BESIDES, EVEN IF I WRITE IT, YOU'LL BE THE ONE READING IT TO HIM.







KANOE-NIICHAN!



Haa



CLANK

CLANK

CLANK



THOSE
GIRLS ARE
COMPLETE-
LY OBSESSED
WITH YOU.



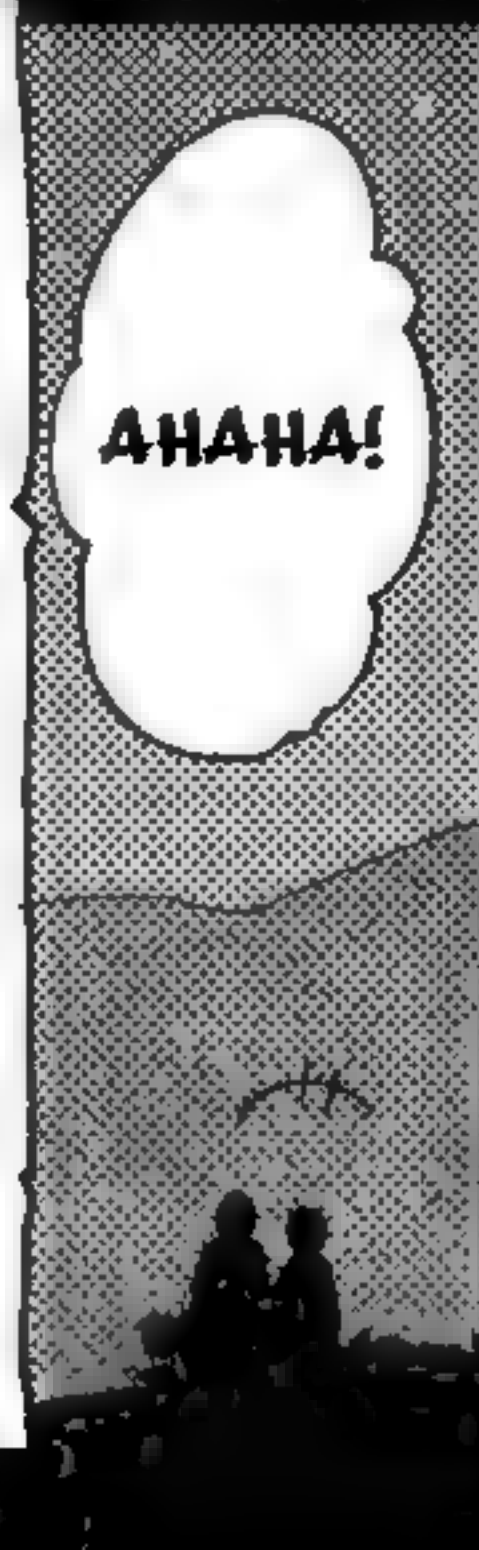
HEY!

KYAHHAHA!

LET'S PLAY,
LET'S PLAY!

COME
PLAY
WITH
US!

The oldest son of the family, Kanoe, worked at a coal mine to help support his family. Even when his sister got married and his brother became independent, he continued his work.



AHAHA!



YOU REALLY
LOVE KIDS,
HUH?

SEEING THEIR
SMILING FACES
MAKES ALL MY
FATIGUE MELT
AWAY.

He had found
a new life to
protect

I SEE.

I WANT TO
MAKE A LIVING
SO ALL MY
LITTLE SISTERS
CAN HAVE
EASIER LIVES.

MY FATHER
HAD A GAMBLING
PROBLEM, AND
HAS A HUGE
DEBT.

AND APPAR-
ENTLY HE TOOK
A LIKING TO ME
FOR WHATEVER
REASON.

MY FATHER
BECAME
FRIENDS WITH
THE OWNER
WHILE AT A
GAMBLING
DEN,

I GUESS IT'S
BECAUSE I
TAKE CARE OF
MY SISTERS.

YEAH.

AN
APPRENTICE
SHIP AT A
TEXTILES
SHOP?

BUT I

IT'S A LOT
BETTER THAN
DOING DANGEROUS
MANUAL LABOUR
LIKE THIS.

THAT'S
GREAT
NEWS.

DON'T
WANT TO BE
SEPARATED
FROM YOU.



ARE YOU
OKAY?!





FOR A GIRL,
I LIKE "FUU".

Let's
see...

AND
"KOROKU"
WOULD BE
NICE FOR A
BOY...

WAIT!



AH...
I'M SORRY
BUT I DON'T
KNOW FOR
CERTAIN YET,
SO I HAVEN'T
TOLD YOU.

WE NEED
TO PICK
A NAME!!

BAM



I WAS SO
HAPPY
THAT ALL
THE BLOOD
RUSHED TO
MY HEAD.



I'LL HAVE
TO WORK
TWICE AS
HARD!!

ha
ha
ha!



I GUESS
WE SHOULD
GET MARRIED
FIRST!

SMACK...



I CAN'T WAIT
TO MEET THEM!
WE'LL PLAY
TOGETHER ALL
THE TIME!!

YOU'RE
TOO
IMPA-
TIENT!

you're
smothering
me!!

BUT THE TWO
OF THEM NEVER
GOT MARRIED.

He made an agreement to waive his debt by giving away his daughter.

Her father had borrowed a considerable amount of money from the store to pay for his gambling.

The promise of an apprenticeship was a lie from the start

Several days later, she married the owner of the textiles shop.



And silently left Kanoe.

She had to leave her little sisters behind,



Afterwards,
though
unusual for
him, he went
to his father
for help.

I WENT TO
THE STORE
YOU TOLD
ME ABOUT.

Kanoe
never went
back to that
town again.

Toss



...STILL

HE LOOKED
LIKE HE WAS
GROWING UP
WELL.

HIS MOM
LOOKED
CHEERFUL,
TOO.

I DON'T
NEED TO
HEAR THAT
FROM YOU!!

I WAS
SURPRISED,
THAT KID
REALLY DOES
LOOK LIKE
YOU.

He even
looks a
little
like me!

AND MAKE
SURE YOU
DON'T TELL
ANYONE
ABOUT THIS!!



ISN'T ABLE
TO SEE.

KOROKU-CHAN



BUT I'LL
KEEP VISITING
HIM FROM
NOW ON!

EVEN IF THERE'S
NO MEDICINE TO
FIX HIS VISION,
MAYBE THERE'S
SOMETHING
ELSE...

OH,

BUT
KANO!

YOU DIDN'T
DO ANYTHING
WRONG.



I SHOULDN'T
BE GETTING
YOU INVOLVED,
SINCE YOU
HAVE NOTHING
TO DO WITH
THIS...



KANO...

I ALREADY
TOLD YOU
THAT YOU
ONLY NEEDED
TO DO THIS
ONCE.



AND IF THERE'S
ANYTHING YOU
WANT TO GIVE
HIM, I'LL
DELIVER IT.

**YOU DON'T
HAVE TO DO
ANYTHING
EXTRA!**



HUH?!

I WAS
REALLY
HAPPY THAT
YOU WERE
RELYING ON
ME FOR
ONCE!!



DON'T
SAY
THINGS
LIKE
THAT!!



I ALWAYS
NOTICED, BUT I
DIDN'T KNOW
WHAT TO DO AS
YOUR FATHER...!

NO,
UHH...

SINCE YOU'RE THE
MIDDLE CHILD, YOU
ALWAYS HAD TO
HIDE YOUR TRUE
FEELINGS SINCE
EVERYONE GAVE
MORE ATTENTION
TO THE OLDEST
AND YOUNGEST
KIDS!!



KANOE!!



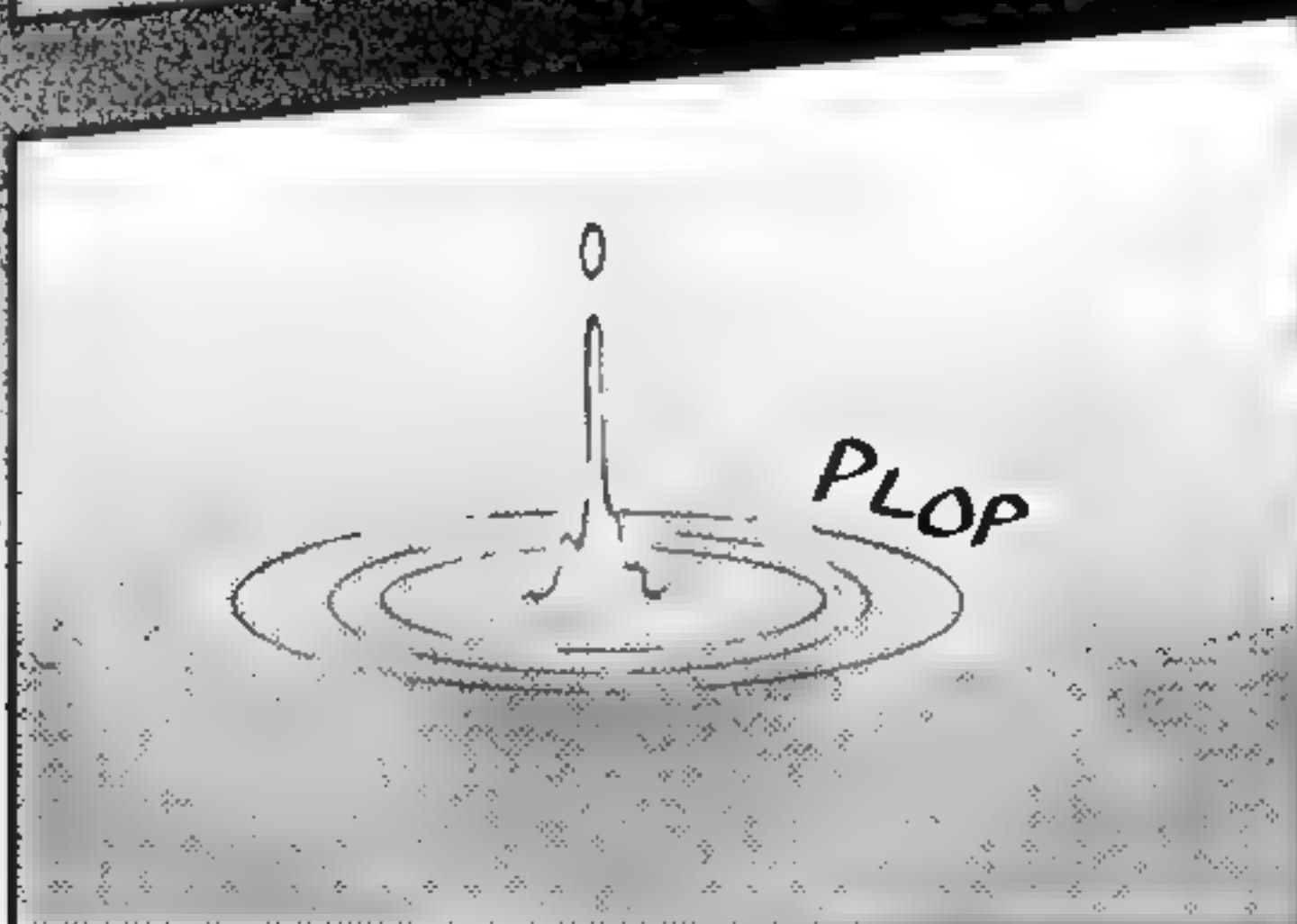
SO TELL ME!!
WHAT DO YOU
REALLY WANT
TO DO?!



I WANT YOU TO
WATCH OVER
KOROKU IN MY
STEAD...!

I WANT TO
SEE HIM.

...I
WANT
HIM TO
GROW UP
HEALTHY.



PLOP

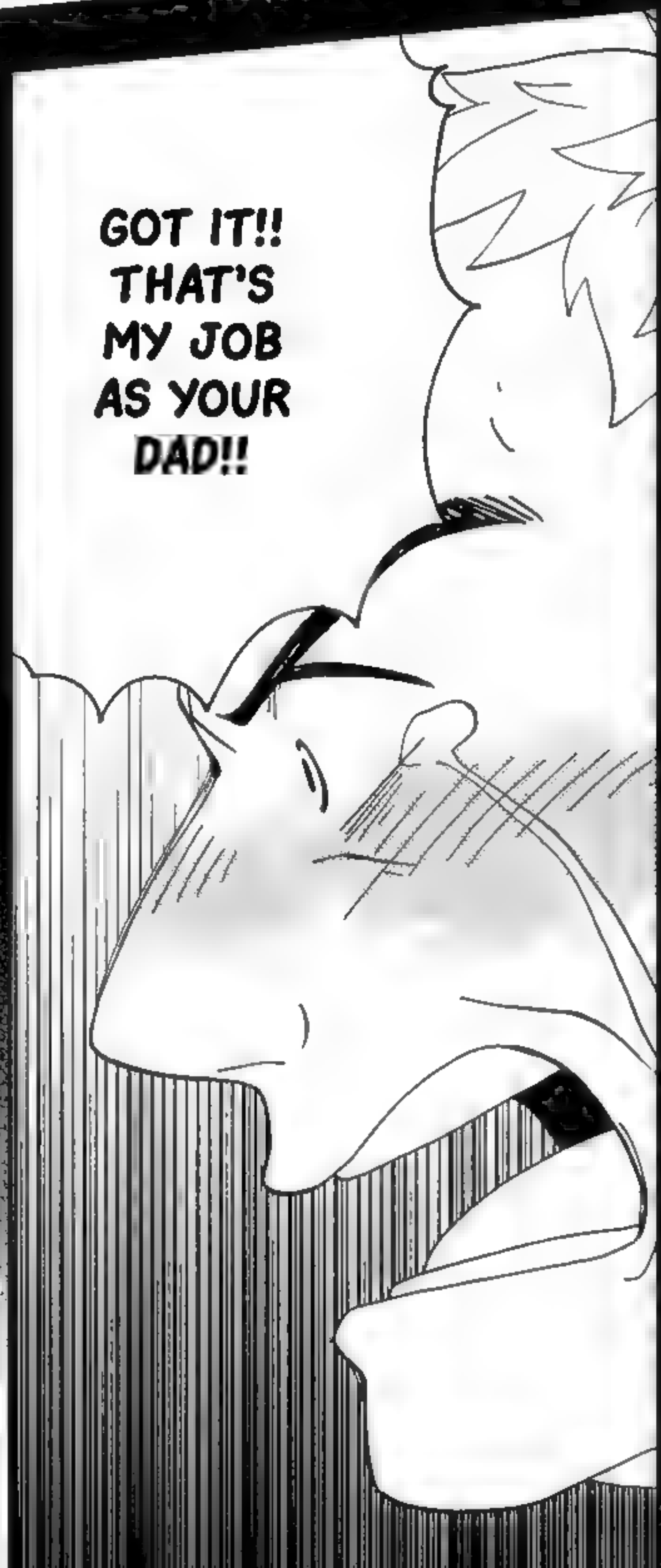


SHUT UP,
ICHIYOU.

SKREE!
SKREE!

HOW CAN
HE SAY
SOMETH-
ING LIKE
THAT SO
PROUDLY?

I'LL
MAKE
SURE
THAT I
GRANT
YOUR
WISH!!

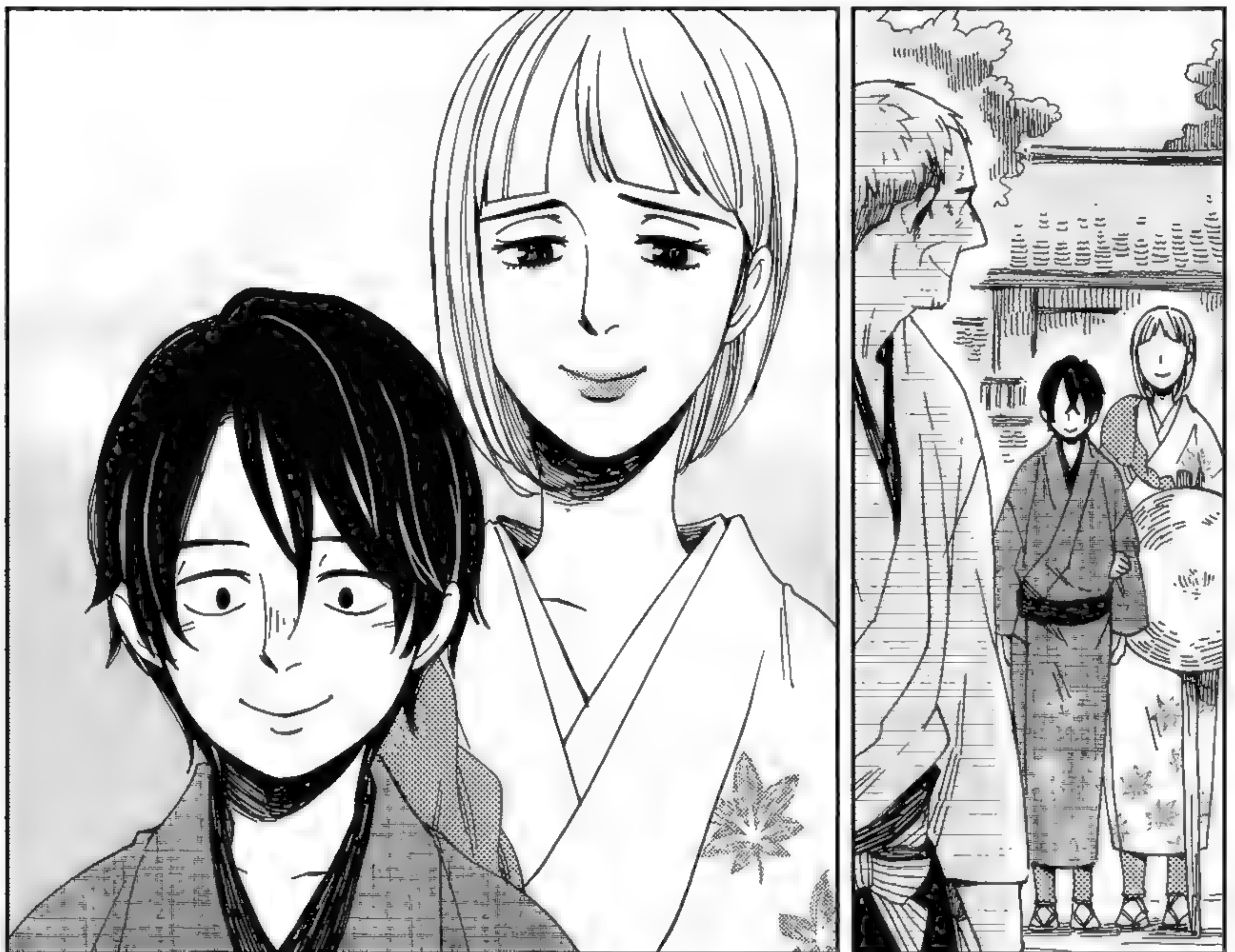


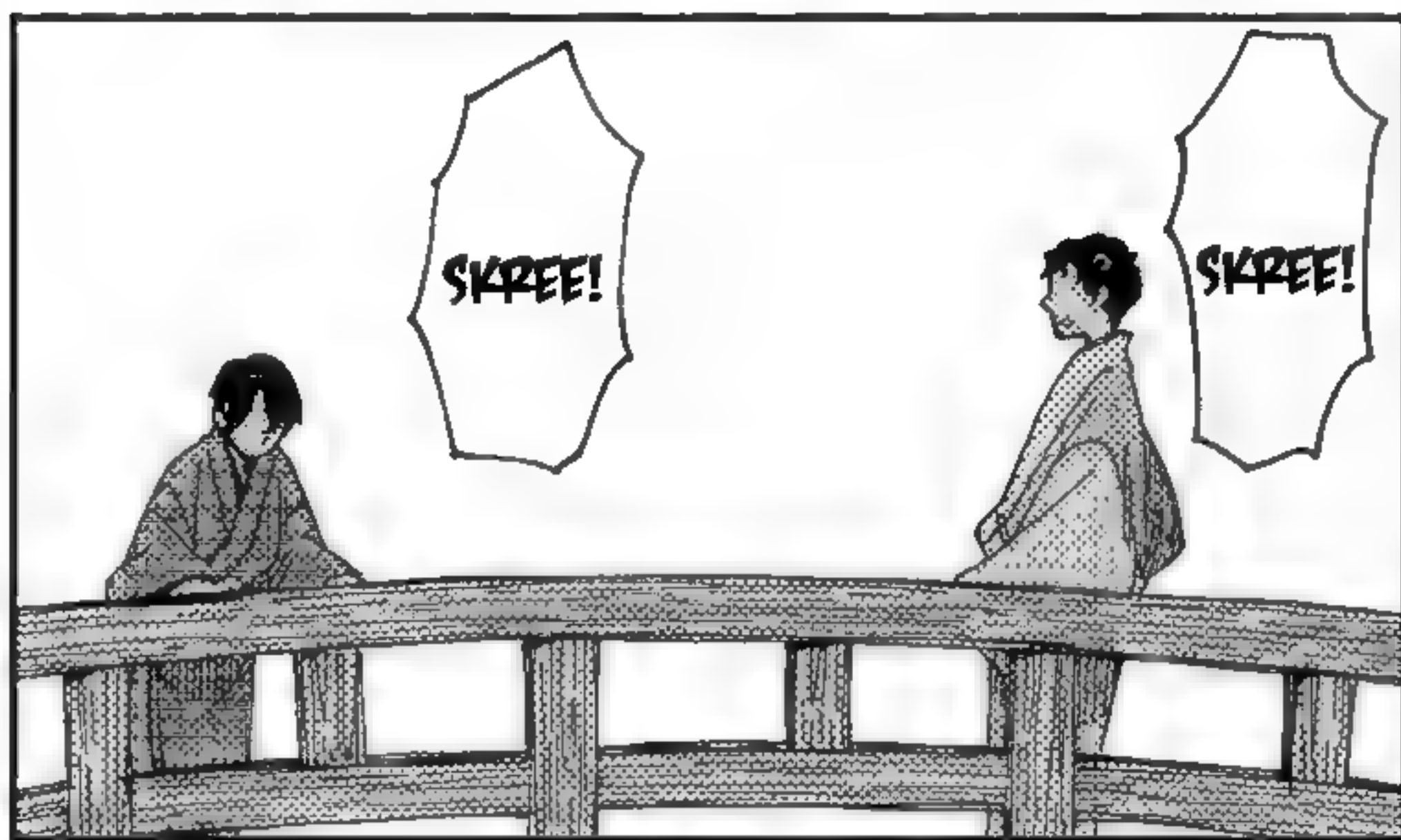
GOT IT!!
THAT'S
MY JOB
AS YOUR
DAD!!



SFX: Flinch











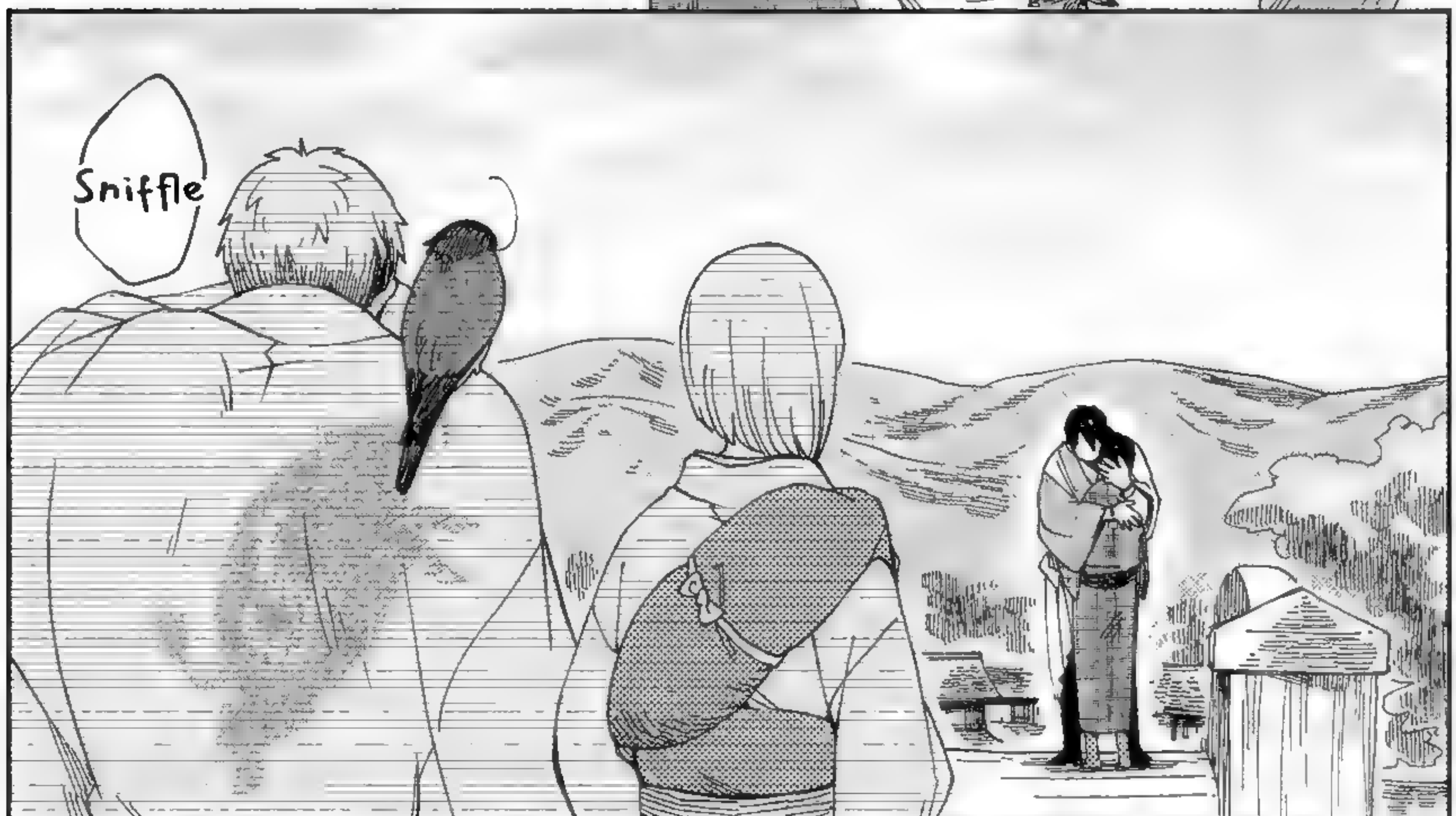


I WISH
I COULD
SEE YOU
PROPERLY.



BUT...





Chapter 45: Inosuke the Medicine Seller



HE'S GONNA
RETIRE NEXT
YEAR.

HE DECIDED
THAT HE WANTS TO
PASS HIS WORK
DOWN TO YOU,
AND DEDICATE HIS
RETIREMENT TO
TAKING CARE OF
HIS GRANDSON.



THIS IS
THE FIRST
I'M HEARING
OF IT!!







SAME HERE.

WHEN I
HEARD
ABOUT IT,
I WAS TOLD
NOT TO
LET YOU
KNOW.

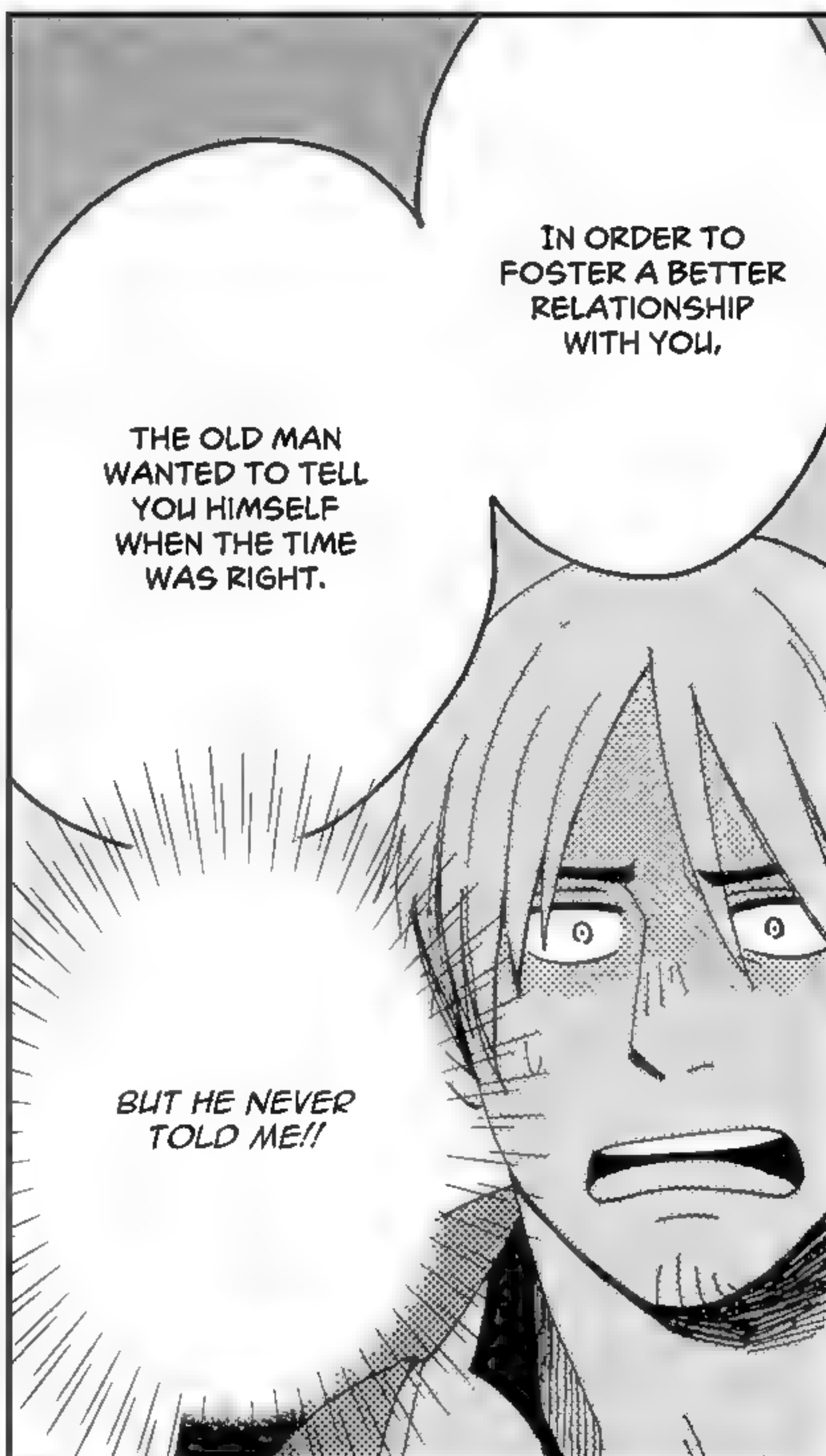
WHY?!



WHEN I HEARD
THAT YOU
WERE GOING
TO TAKE OVER
IN THE SUMMER,
I THOUGHT YOU
ALREADY KNEW.

...IS WHAT
I'D LIKE
TO SAY.

SC-CK



IN ORDER TO
FOSTER A BETTER
RELATIONSHIP
WITH YOU,

THE OLD MAN
WANTED TO TELL
YOU HIMSELF
WHEN THE TIME
WAS RIGHT.

BUT HE NEVER
TOLD ME!!





HEY,
HEY,
DAD!

WHY THE HELL
AM I THE ONLY
ONE WHO DIDN'T
KNOW?



...DANG IT.



HUH?

WHAT
KIND OF
PERSON
IS HE?

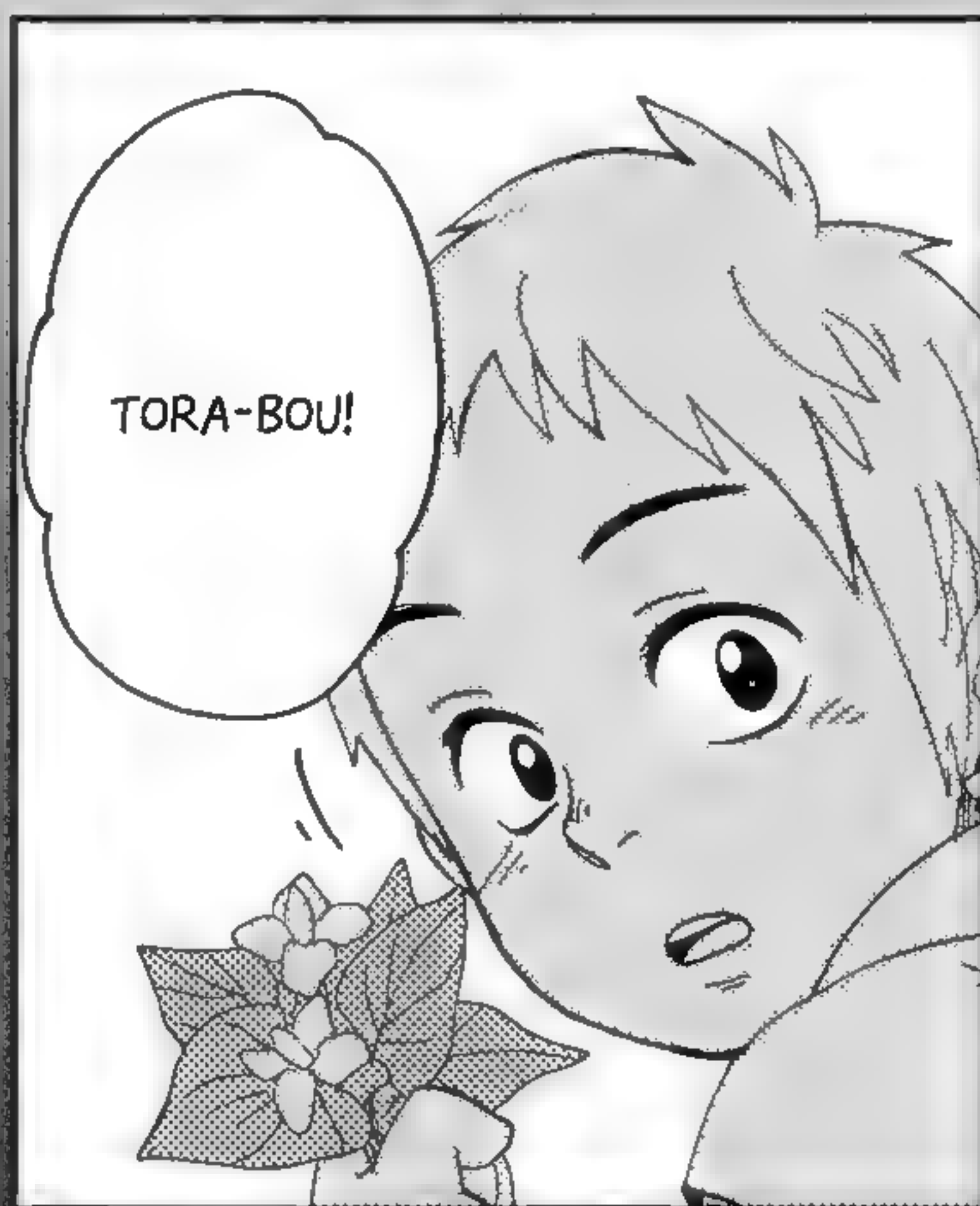
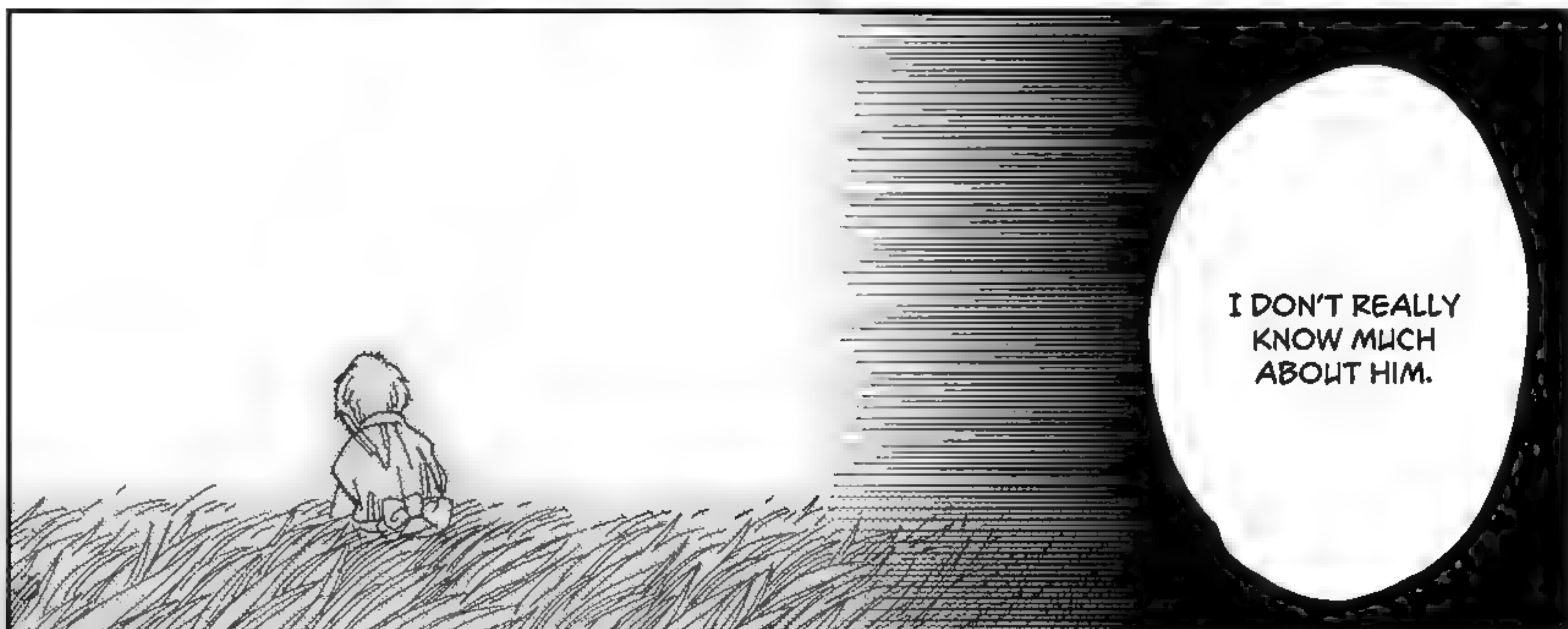


I SENT HIM A
LETTER WITH IEJI,
SO WE HAVE TO
GO GET THE
FULL STORY
FROM HIM.



ARE WE
GONNA GO
MEET YOUR
DAD?

YEAH.





He would come back once every several months with a souvenir. I only really thought of him the way you would an uncle who visited every once in a while.

WHAT IS THIS?

The man I called my dad was someone who was never around.

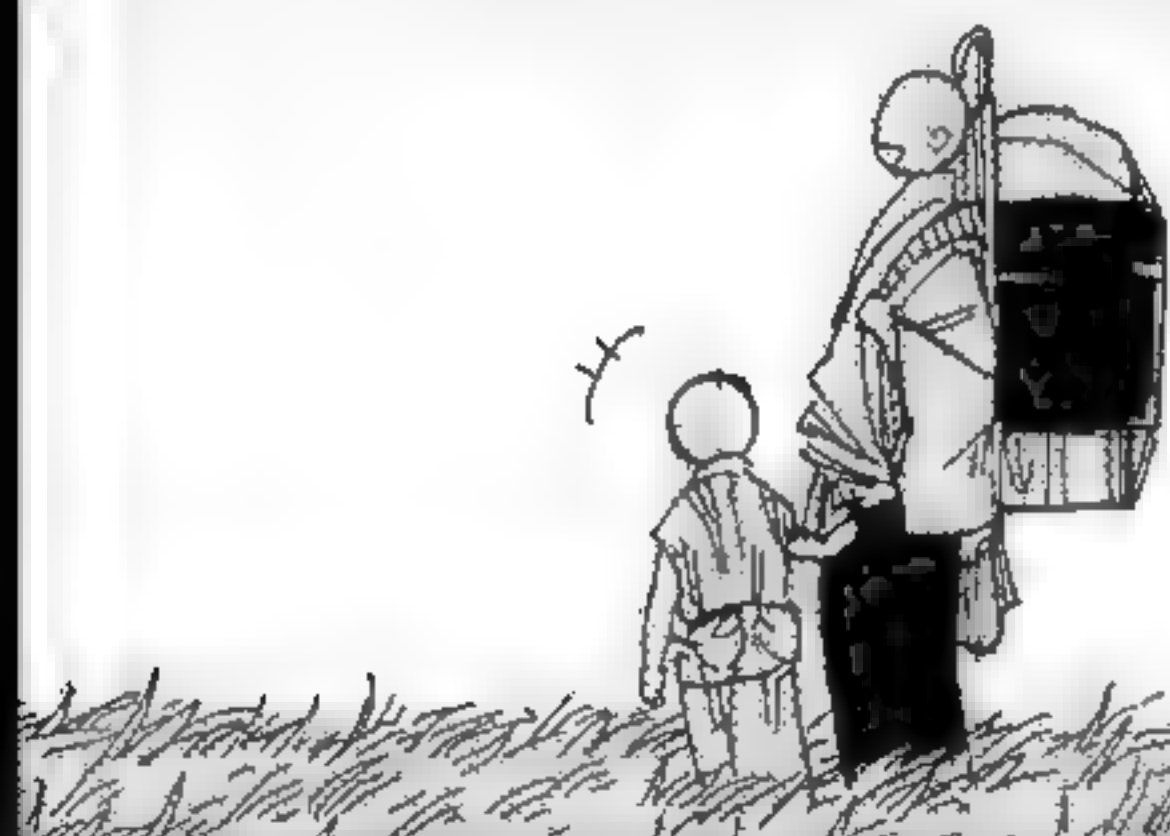
I'M HOME!

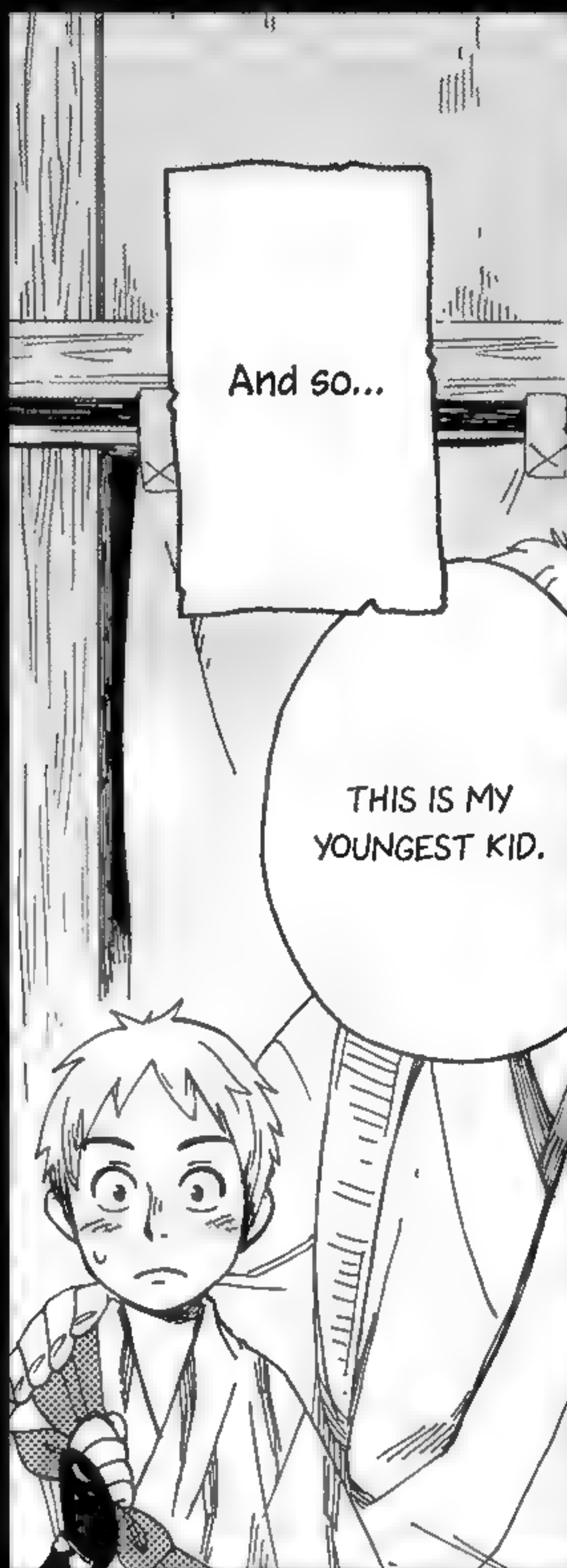
WELCOME BACK!

My older brother and sister went through a lot of hardships because of him.

He was friendly to a fault, and even took on someone else's debt.

My father broke up with my mother when I was too young to understand, and took all 3 of us kids.







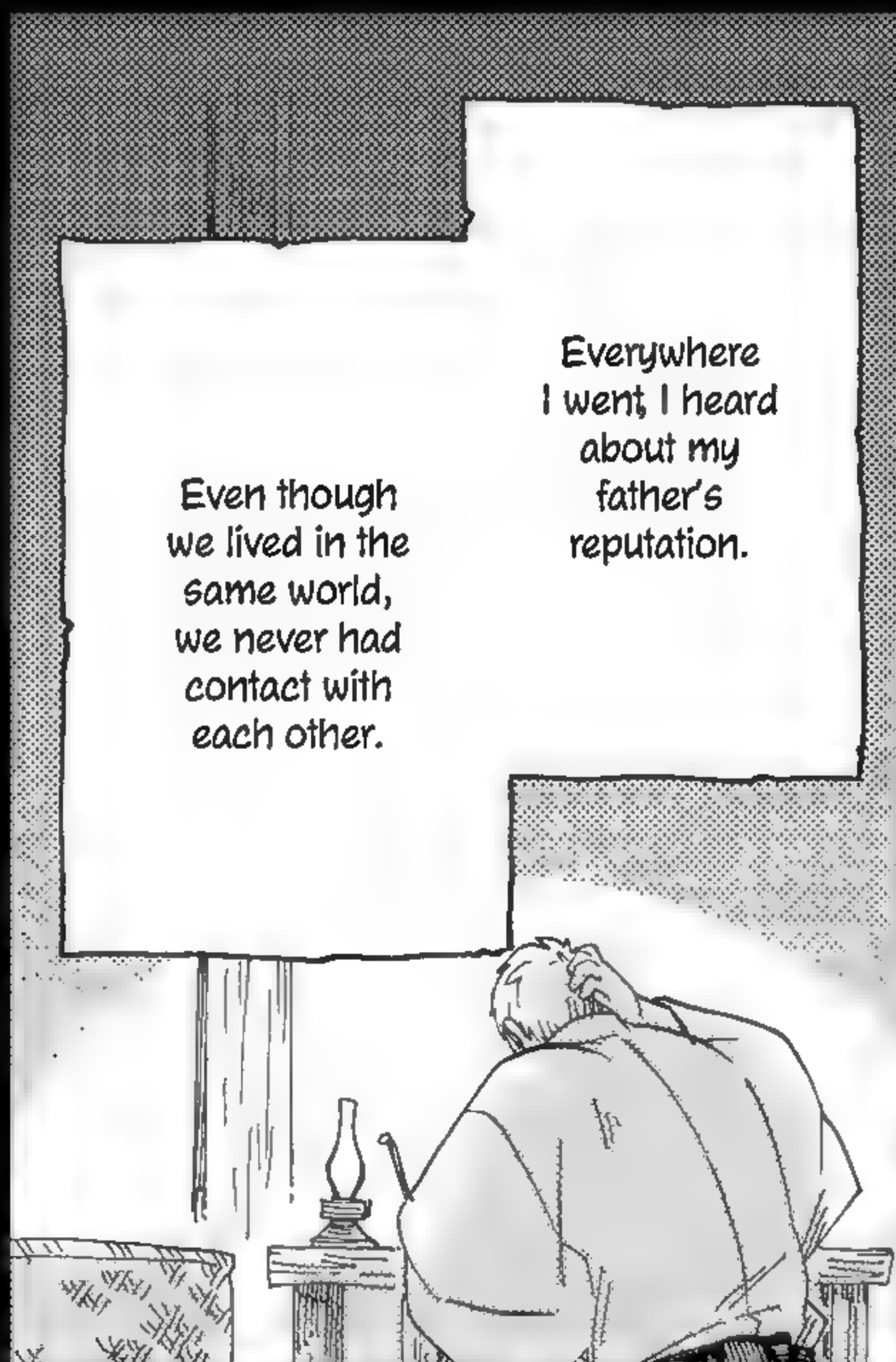
I was
busy
every
day.

And
started
meeting
my dad
less and
less.



I'M TORAKICHI!!
IT'S A PLEASURE
TO MEET YOU!!

I was
introduced to
Nanakusaya.



Even though
we lived in the
same world,
we never had
contact with
each other.

Everywhere
I went, I heard
about my
father's
reputation.



The knowledge and
skills necessary
to be a medicine
salesman were
taught to me by
my boss and one
senpai, rather than
my father.



Or when
I was with
Shiori,



With that
normal
attitude
of his,

when I
came
of age,



He would
occasionally
show up
whenever
he felt like it

Or when
Shirou was
born,



But I haven't
seen him
since then...



When Shiori
died, he cried
with me.



HE ALWAYS
FORGETS
THINGS AND
THEN JUST
APPEARS OUT
OF NOWHERE
AND SURPRISES
EVERYONE.

IT'S JUST
LIKE HIM TO
NOT EVEN
ASK ME.

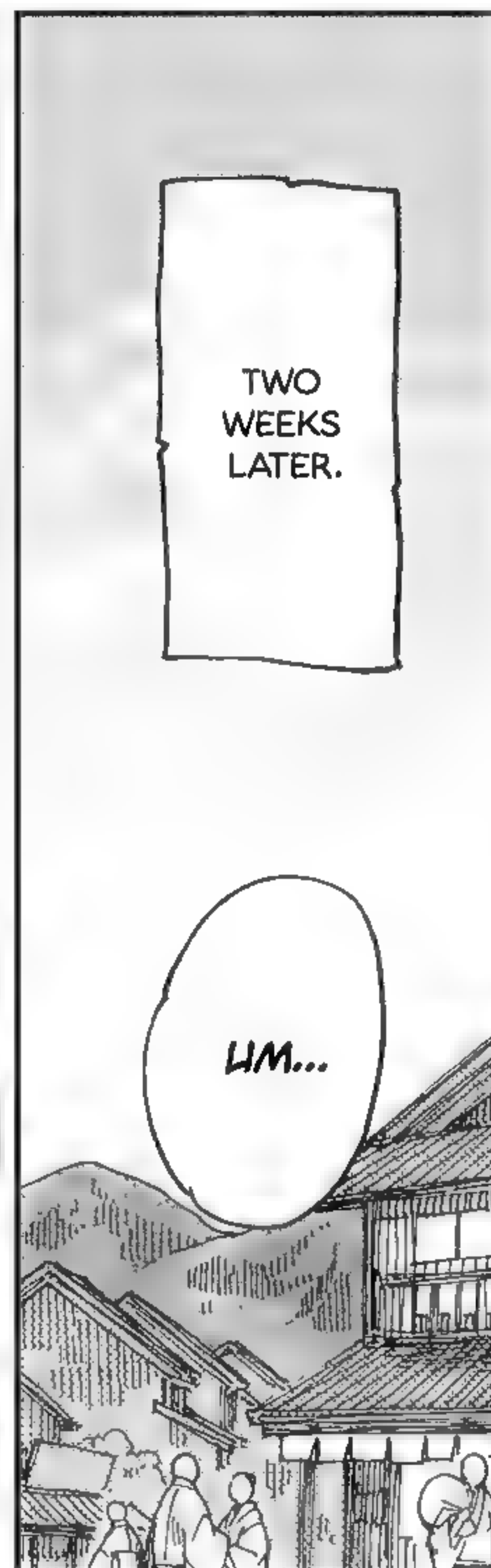
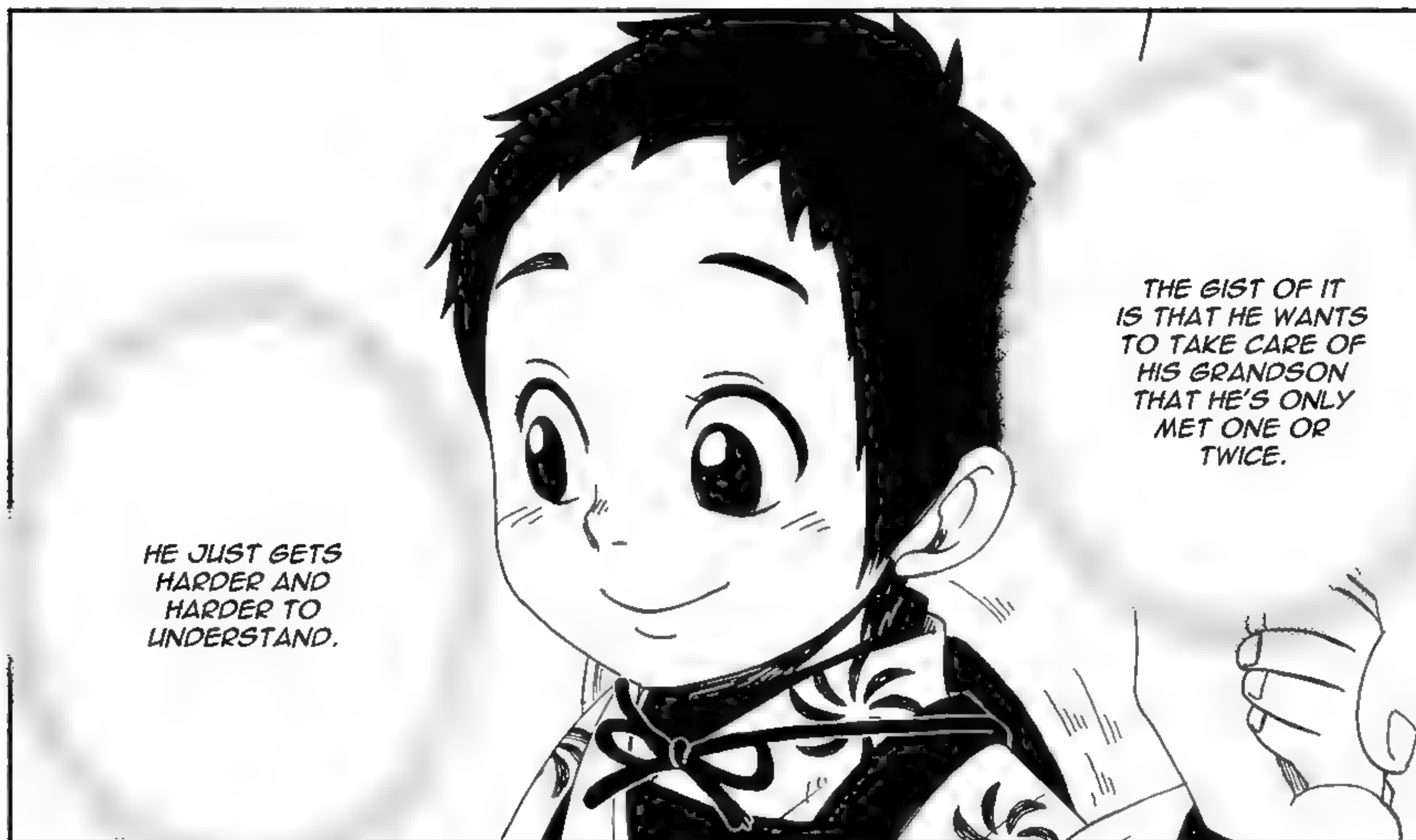


I HAVEN'T MET
HIM IN SO LONG,
I DON'T KNOW WHAT
HE'S THINKING.



HE WASN'T
REALLY A
HARMFUL
PARENT,
BUT

I COULDN'T
REALLY RELY
ON HIM.













THANKS,
KID.



I DON'T NEED
ANYTHING IN
RETURN.

FOR NOW, JUST TAKE
THIS MEDICINE, AND IF
IT HELPS, YOU CAN
ASK YOUR NORMAL
MEDICINE SALESMAN
TO GIVE YOU THE
SAME KIND NEXT TIME.



UM,
I'M SHIROU,
AND MY DAD
SELLS MEDICINE,
TOO!

WAS IT?

You're
embar-
rassing
me.



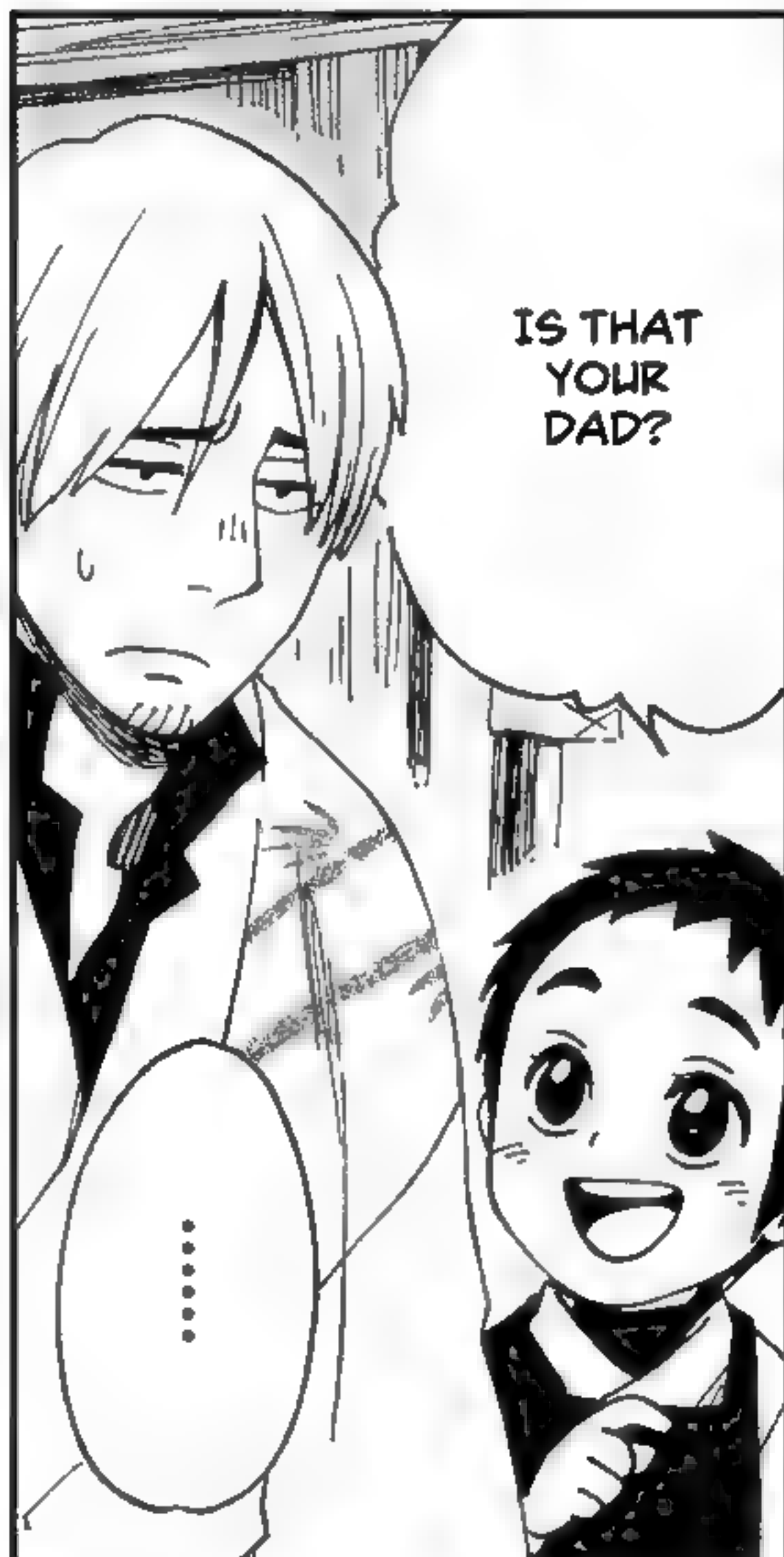
THAT WAS
AWESOME,
MISTER!

THANKS TO YOU,
THAT PERSON
GOT THE MEDICINE
SHE NEEDED.









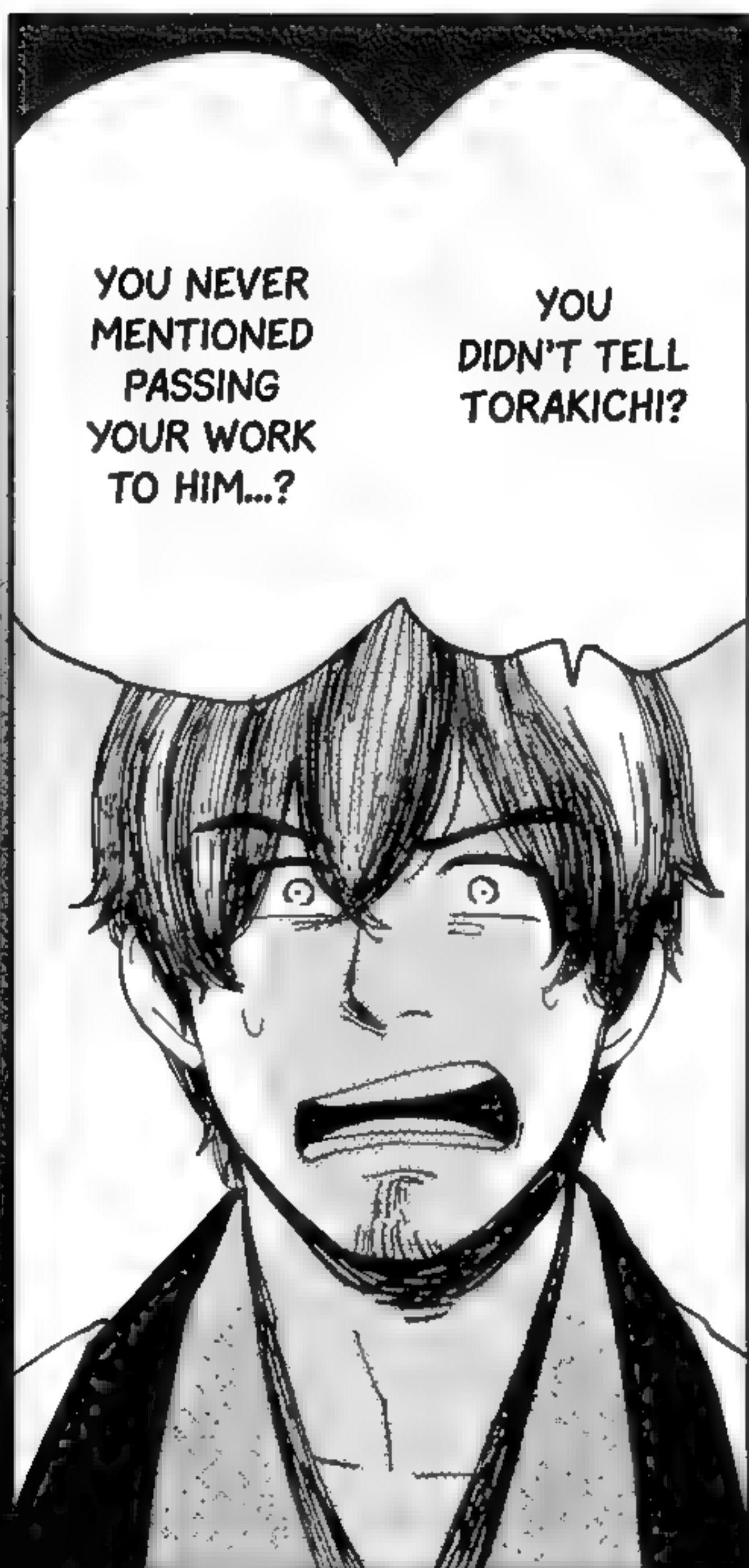
IS THAT
YOUR
DAD?

...



SHH! YOU
PROMISED
NOT TO
TELL THEM,
AKIMI-CHAN!

HE ASKED ME
TO COME ALONG
BECAUSE HE SAID
IT WOULD BE TOO
AWKWARD TO
FINALLY SEE HIS
SON AGAIN AFTER
SO LONG IF HE
WAS ALONE.



YOU NEVER
MENTIONED
PASSING
YOUR WORK
TO HIM...?

YOU
DIDN'T TELL
TORAKICHI?



AHAHA!

YOU
GUYS
HAVE NO
TRUST
IN ME!

TOWJI ALSO SAID
HE WAS WORRIED,
SEEING AS HOW
YOU FORGOT TO
MENTION THAT
YOU'RE RETIRING.



SFX: SLAM







APPARENTLY
YOUR SISTER
WAS STRONGLY
OPPOSED TO IT,
SINCE SHE DIDN'T
THINK HE COULD
HANDLE IT.

HE SOUNDED LIKE
HE WAS EAGER
TO RETIRE SO
HE COULD HELP
YOU TAKE CARE
OF YOUR SON,
SINCE HE WAS
STILL LITTLE.



I THINK HE
FELT BAD FOR
YOU, AFTER
EVERYTHING
THAT HAPPENED.



YET HE
STILL KEPT
PREPARING,

AND
EVERYTHING
IS FINALLY
READY FOR
HIM TO RETIRE
THIS SPRING.

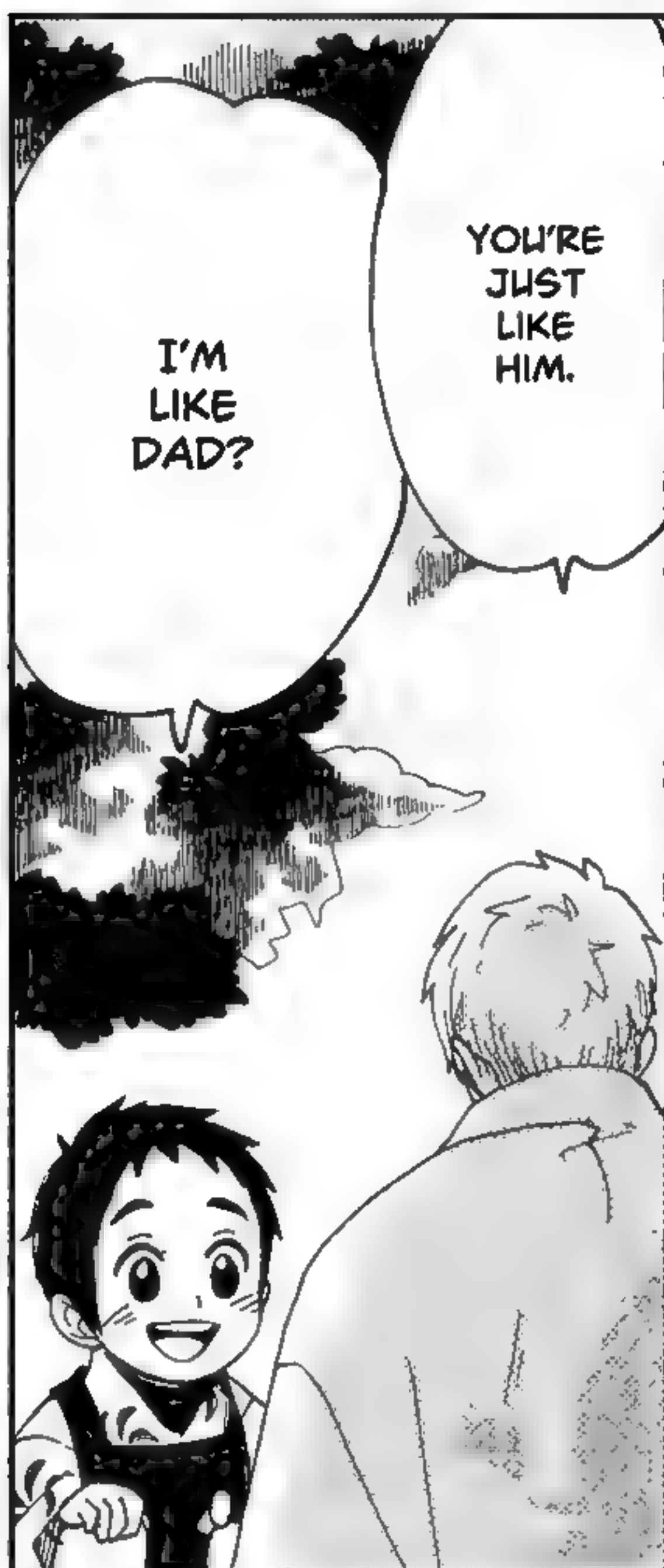


EVEN THOUGH
HE WAS PLANNING
ON RETIRING, THIS
BUSINESS IS BASED
ON TRUST WITH THE
CUSTOMERS, SO
YOU CAN'T JUST
QUIT WHENEVER
YOU FEEL LIKE IT.

HE STILL HAD
SOME DEBT
LEFT BACK
THEN, TOO.

IT JUST
WASN'T
REALISTIC
AT THAT
POINT.







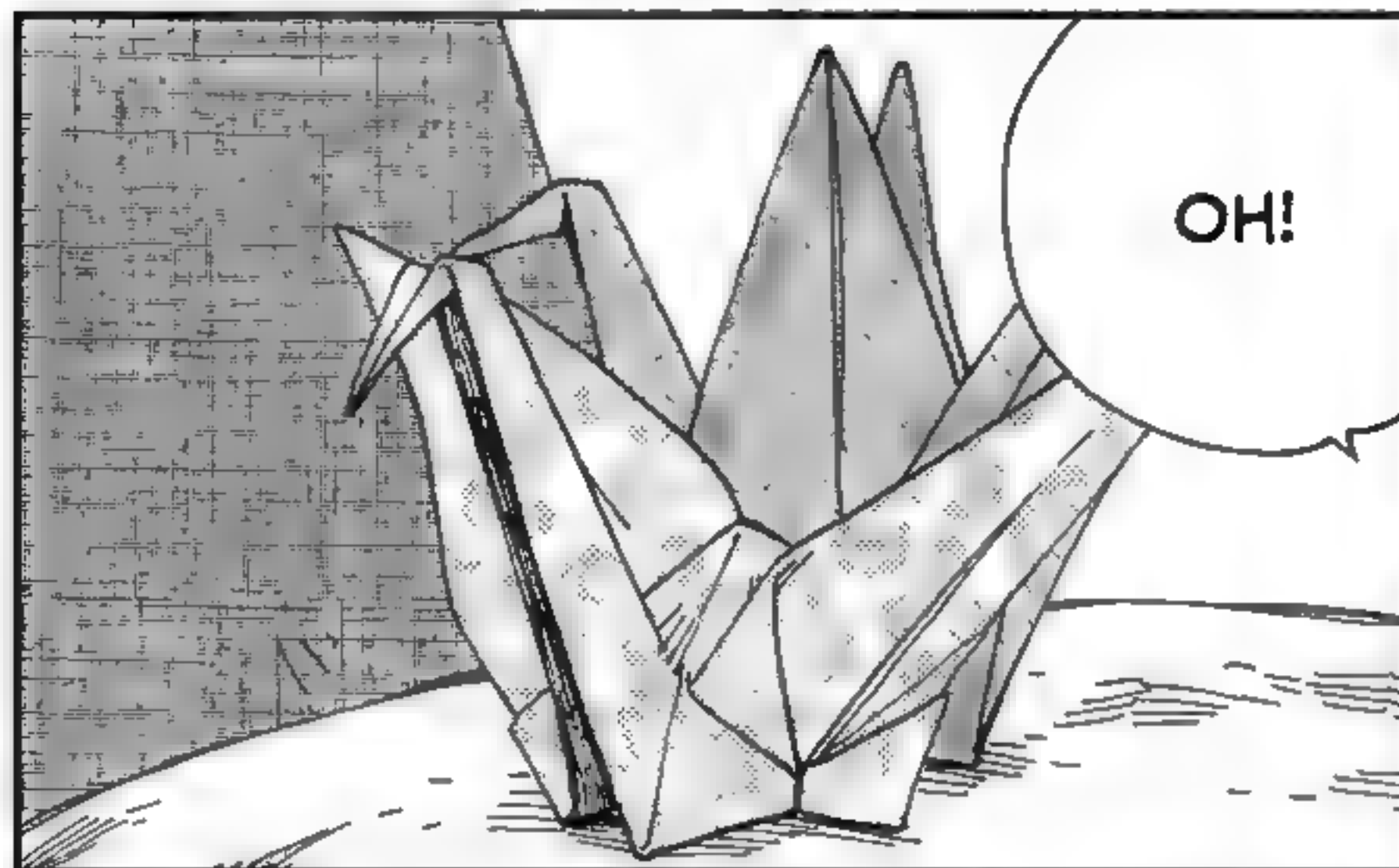
Chapter 46: Happy Reunion



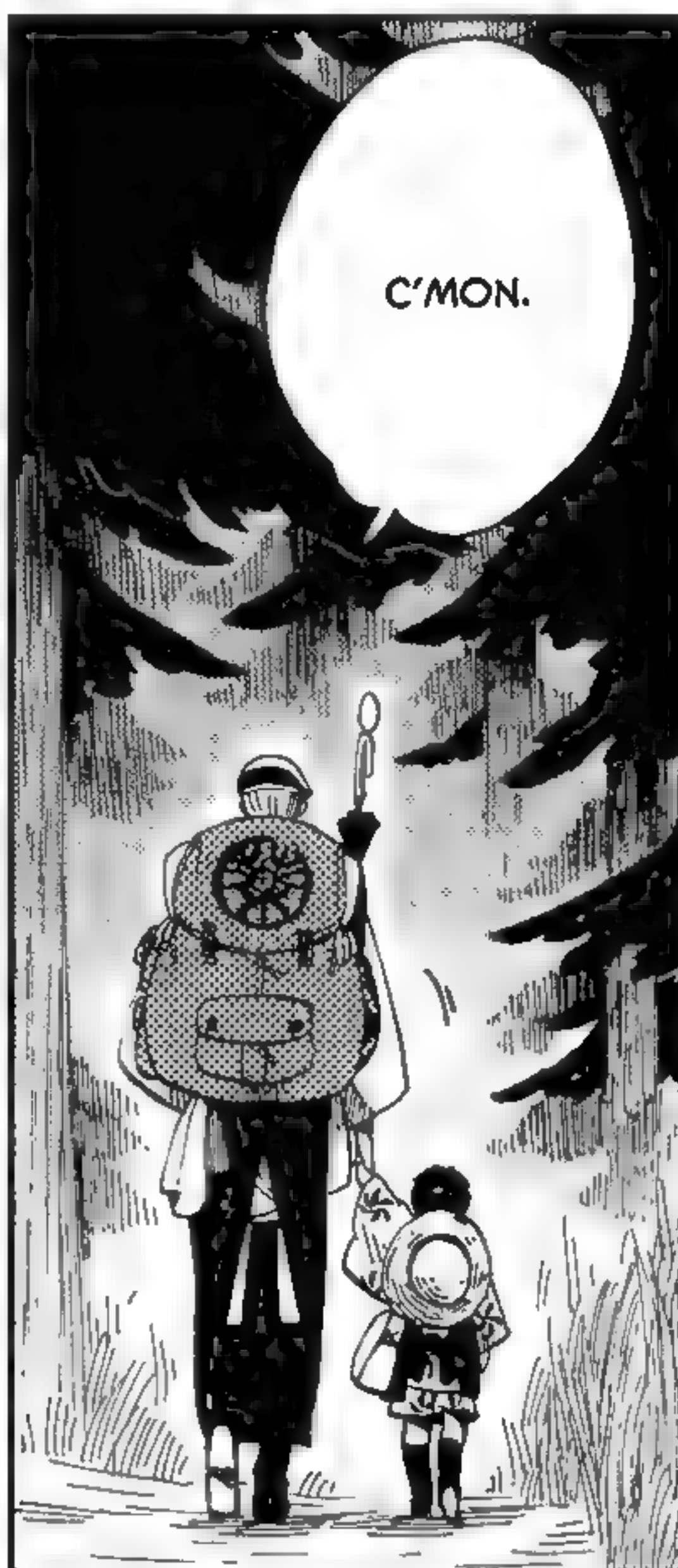


THERE!









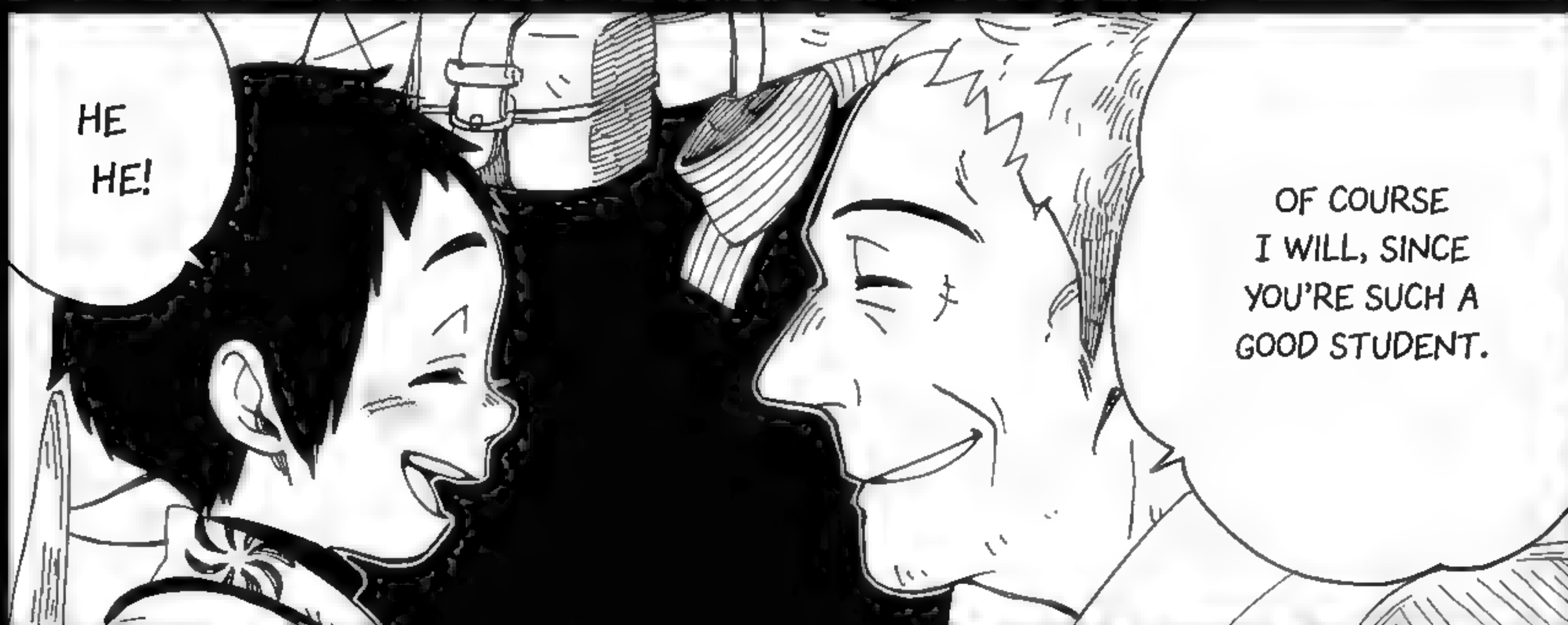


TEACH ME
LOTS MORE
ABOUT
MEDICINAL
PLANTS!



OKAY!

I'M REALLY
LOOKING
FORWARD TO
SEEING YOU
AGAIN SOON.



HE
HE!

OF COURSE
I WILL, SINCE
YOU'RE SUCH A
GOOD STUDENT.



...HEY,

SHIROU.



BYE
BYE!



GRAMPA
KNOWS
SO MUCH
ABOUT
PLANTS!

IT WAS
INTERESTING!



WHAT DID YOU
THINK ABOUT
MEETING YOUR
GRANDPA?

YEAH?

TL Note: Jiji = grampa, jiji = grandpa



NOTHING
HAS BEEN
DECIDED YET
OR ANYTHING,
BUT...



...TH-THEN...



DID YOU
HAVE
FUN?

MAYBE
THIS IS A
GOOD TIME
TO BRING
IT UP...

YUP!

Grampa



OH, BUT IT'S
JUST AN IDEA!
NOTHING IS
HAPPENING
RIGHT AWAY OR
ANYTHING.



...HUH?



GRANDPA
AND I HAVE BEEN
TALKING ABOUT YOU
LIVING WITH HIM,
RATHER THAN
WITH ME...



Uwah...

FWOM!



FLINCH

NO!!!



WHEN YOU
GROW UP
AND GO TO
ELEMEN-
TARY
SCHOOL...



THIS
ISN'T
GOOD...



THERE'S
NO WAY HE
WOULDN'T BE,
WHEN I WENT
AND BROUGHT
IT UP SO
SUDDENLY.

OF
COURSE
HE'S
UPSET.



I DON'T
LIKE THAT
ANYMORE.

OH,
THAT'S RIGHT!
WOULD YOU
LIKE TO EAT
YOUR FAVOURITE
KITSUNE UDON AT
THE TEA HOUSE
COMING UP?

HUH?
REALLY?



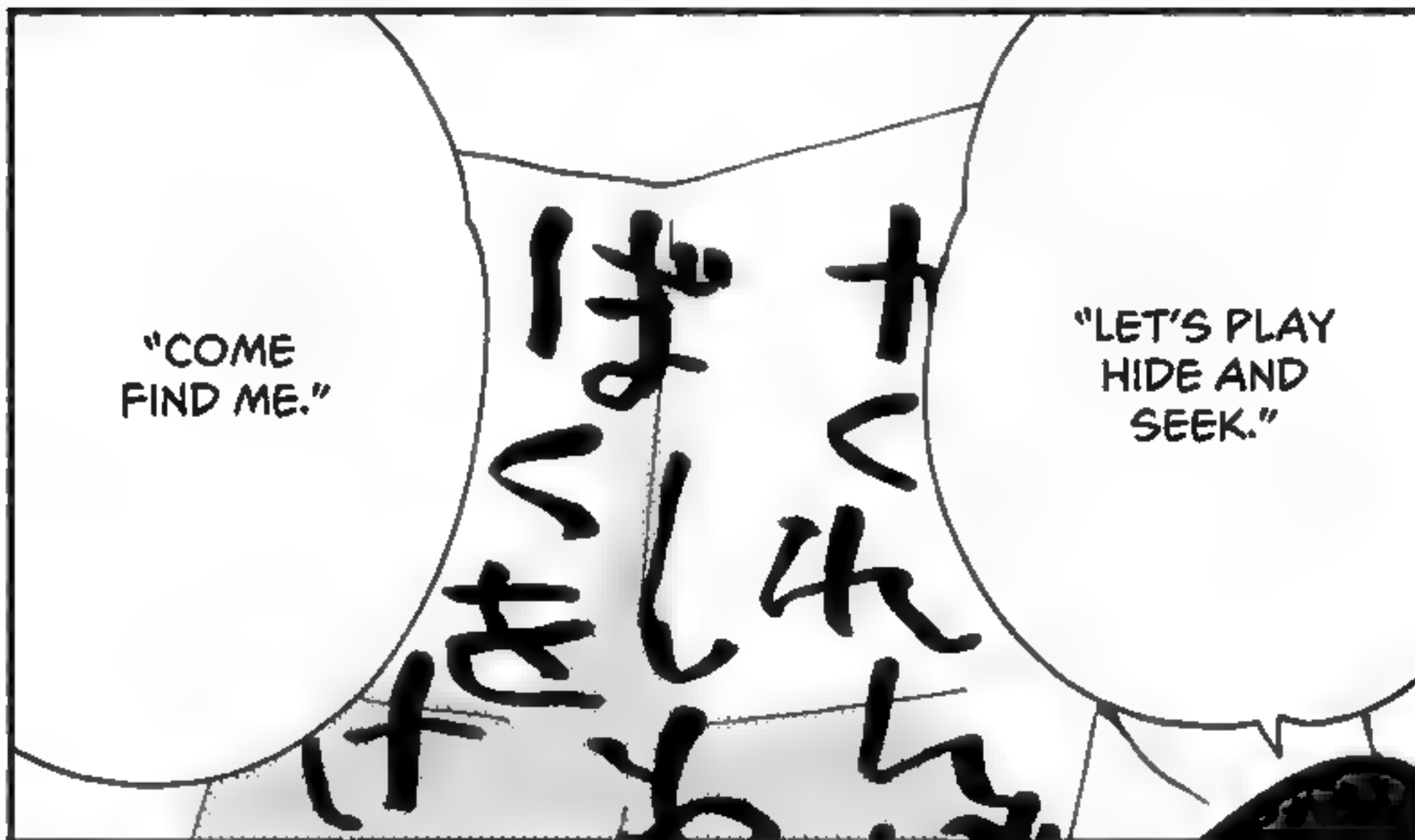
SHIROU.

5
DAYS
LATER.

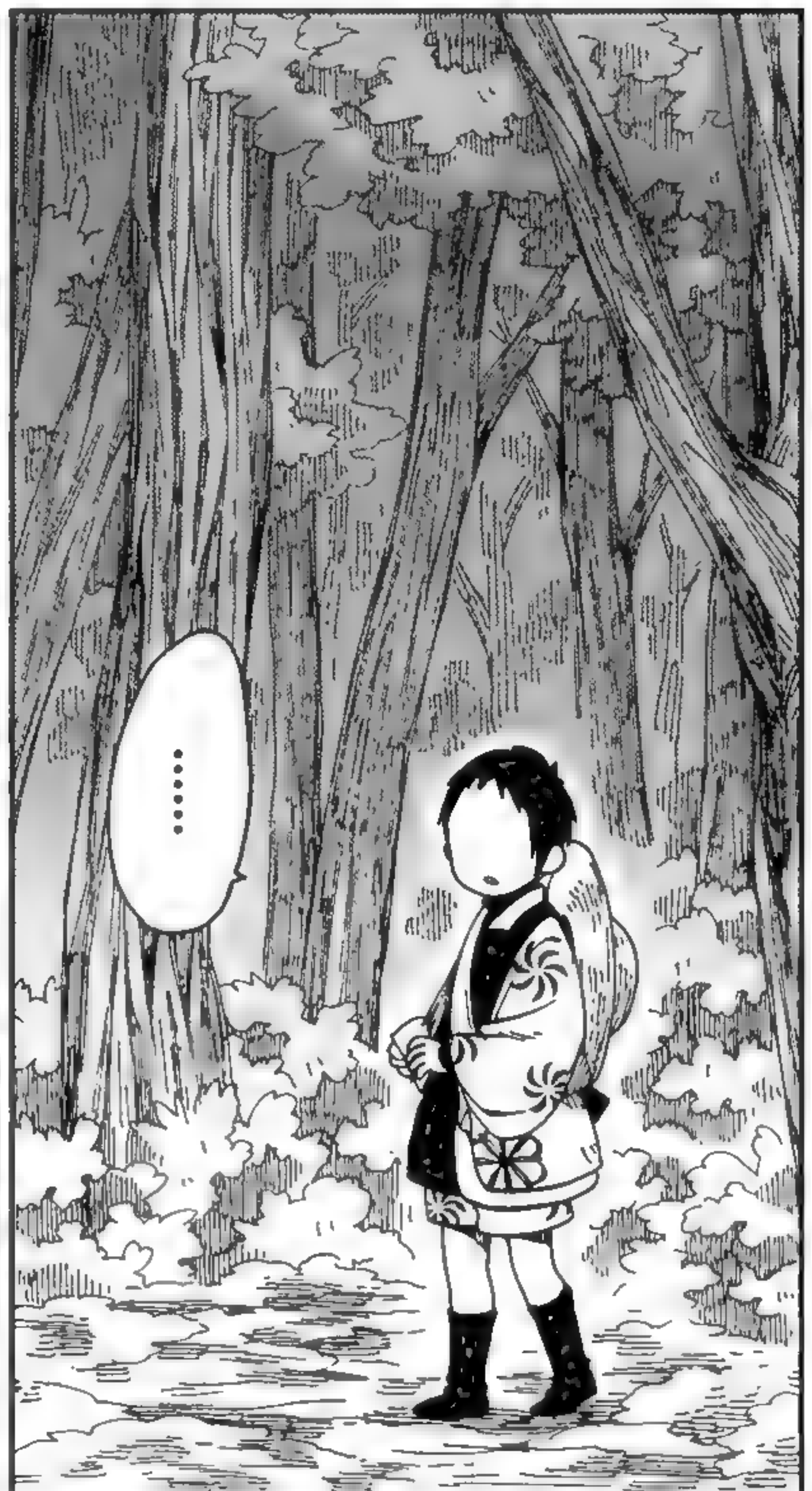
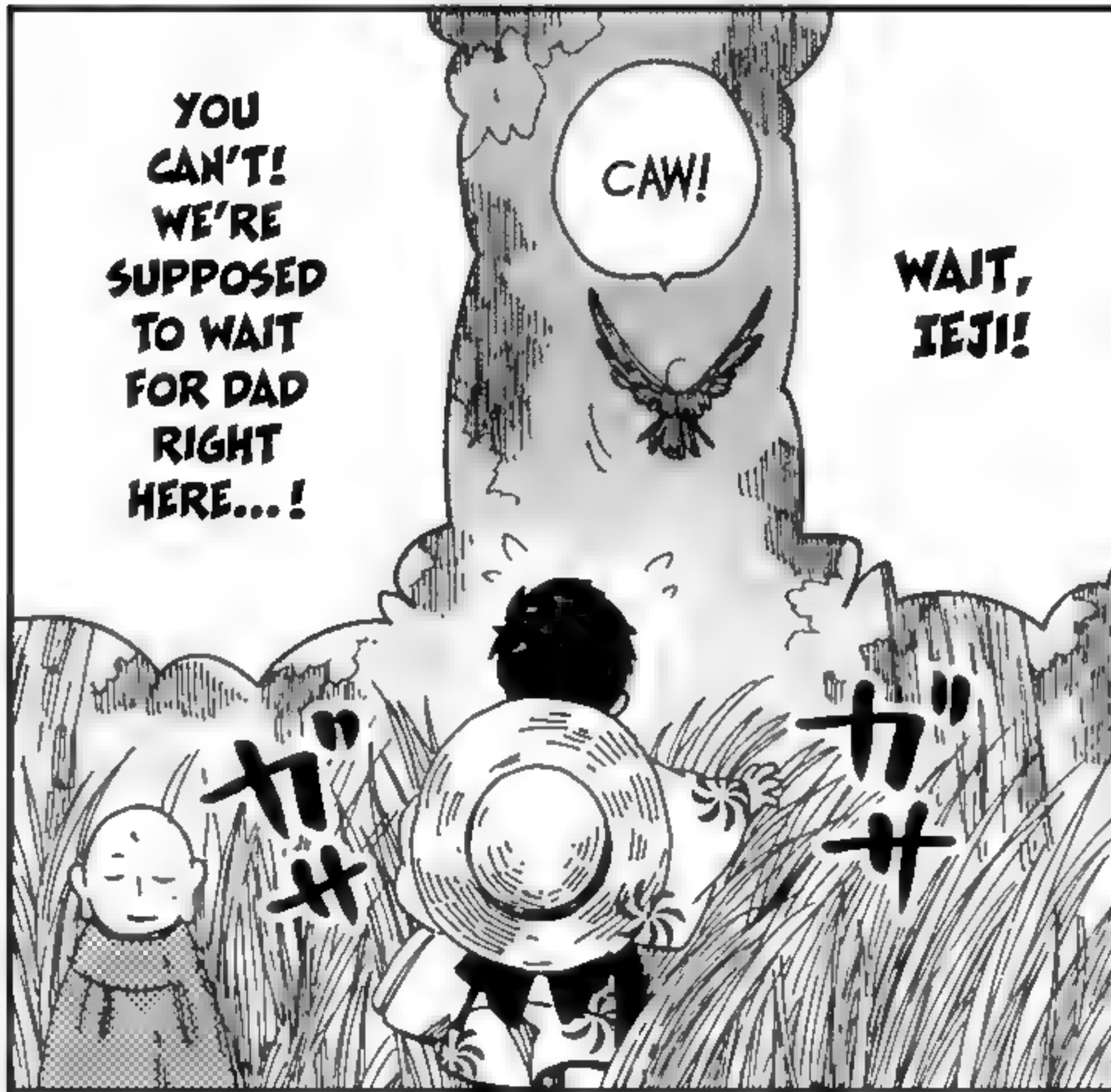


EVER
SINCE
THEN,
SHIROU
HAS BEEN
ACTING
ABSENT-
MINDED...

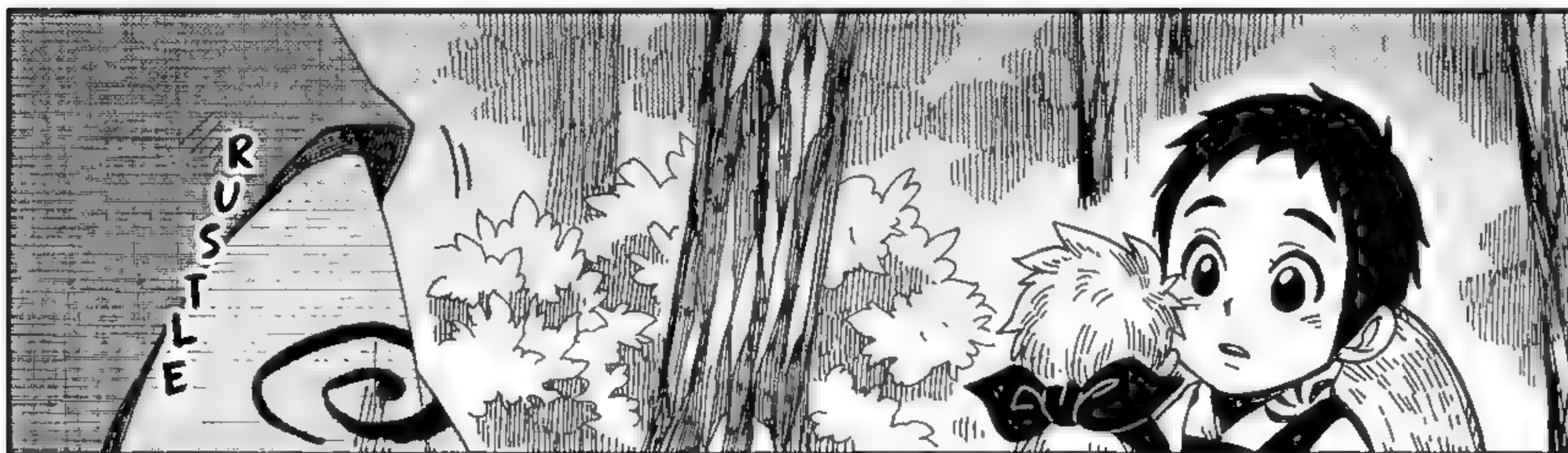




SFX: rustle rustle

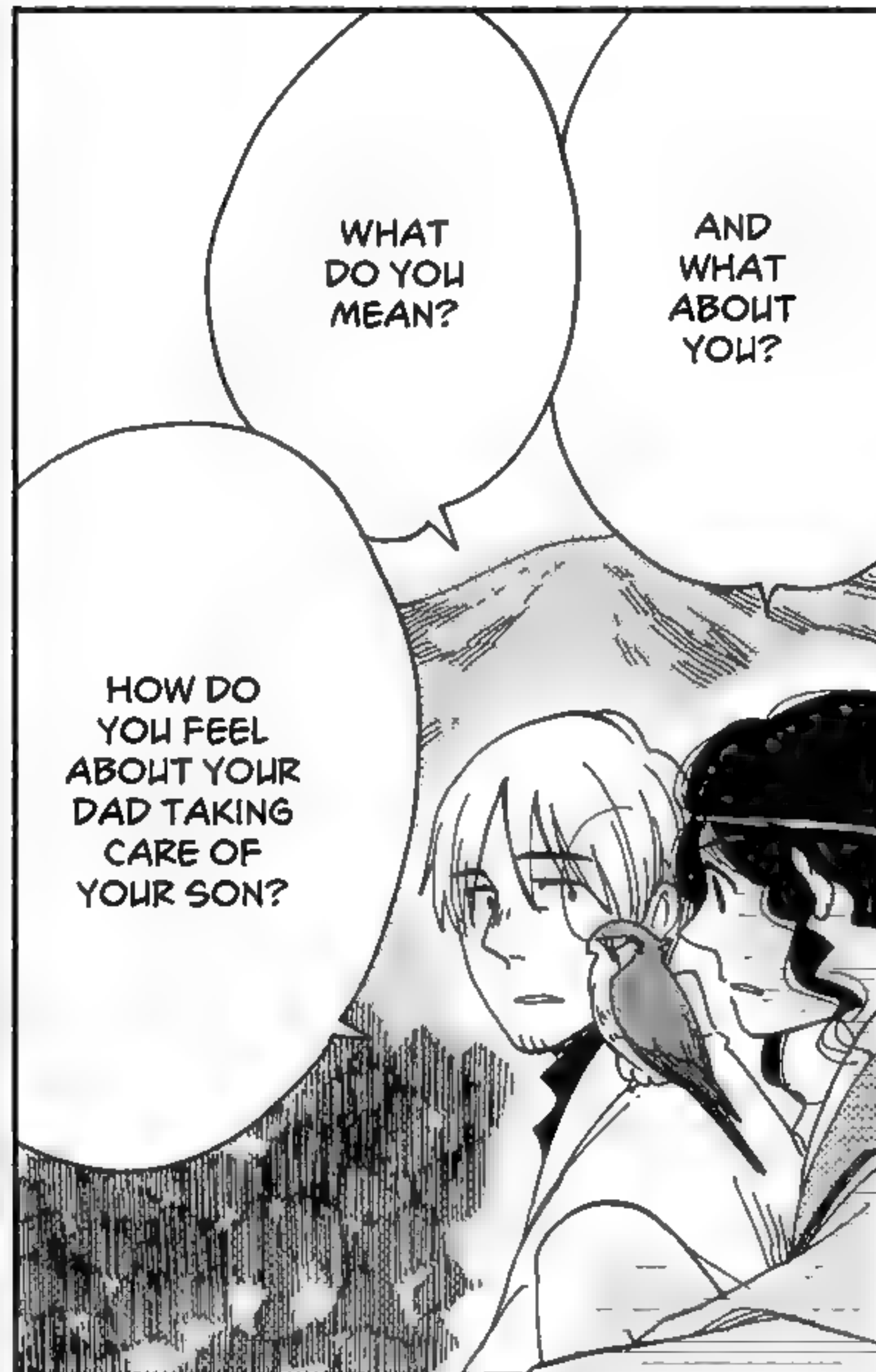


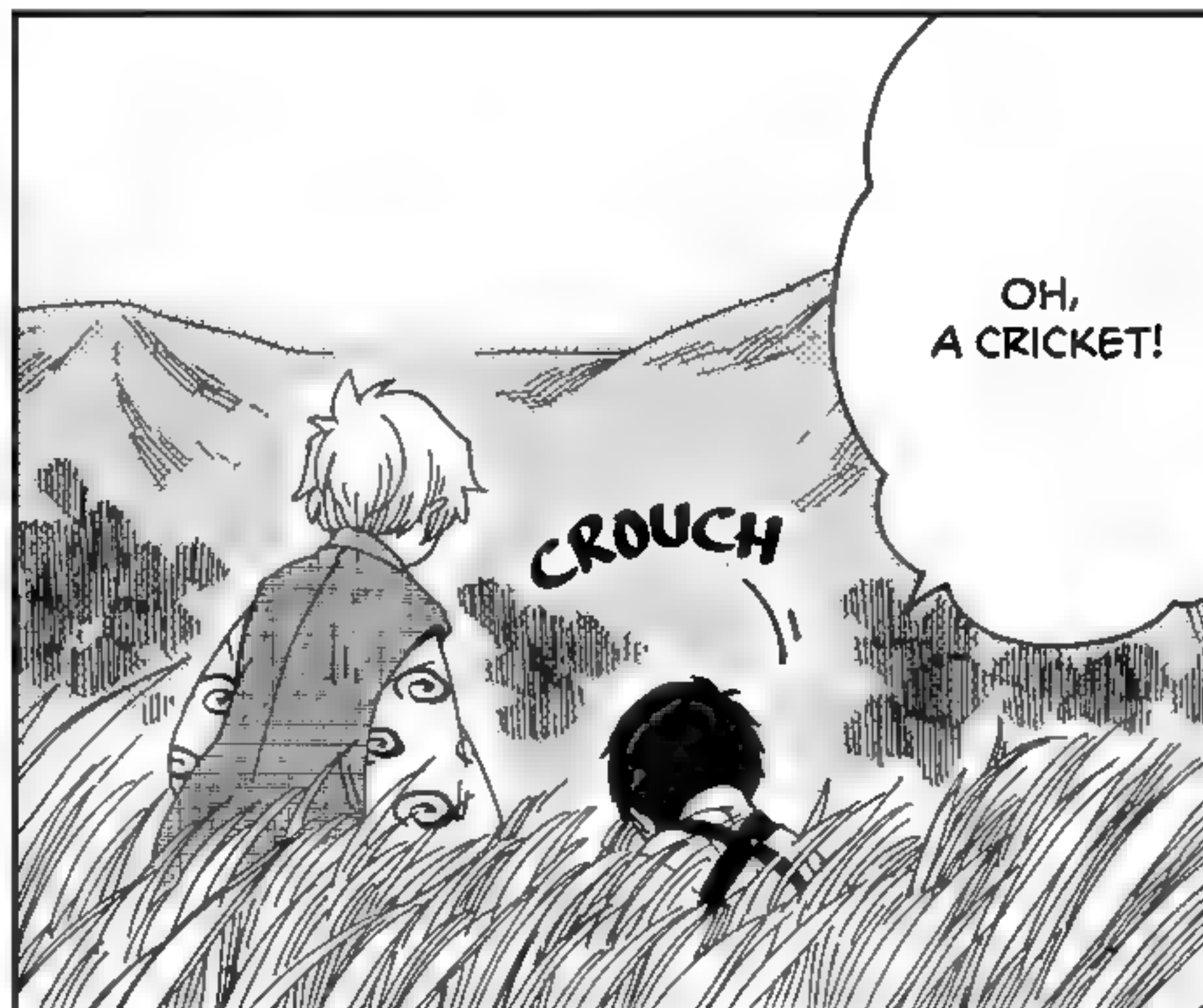


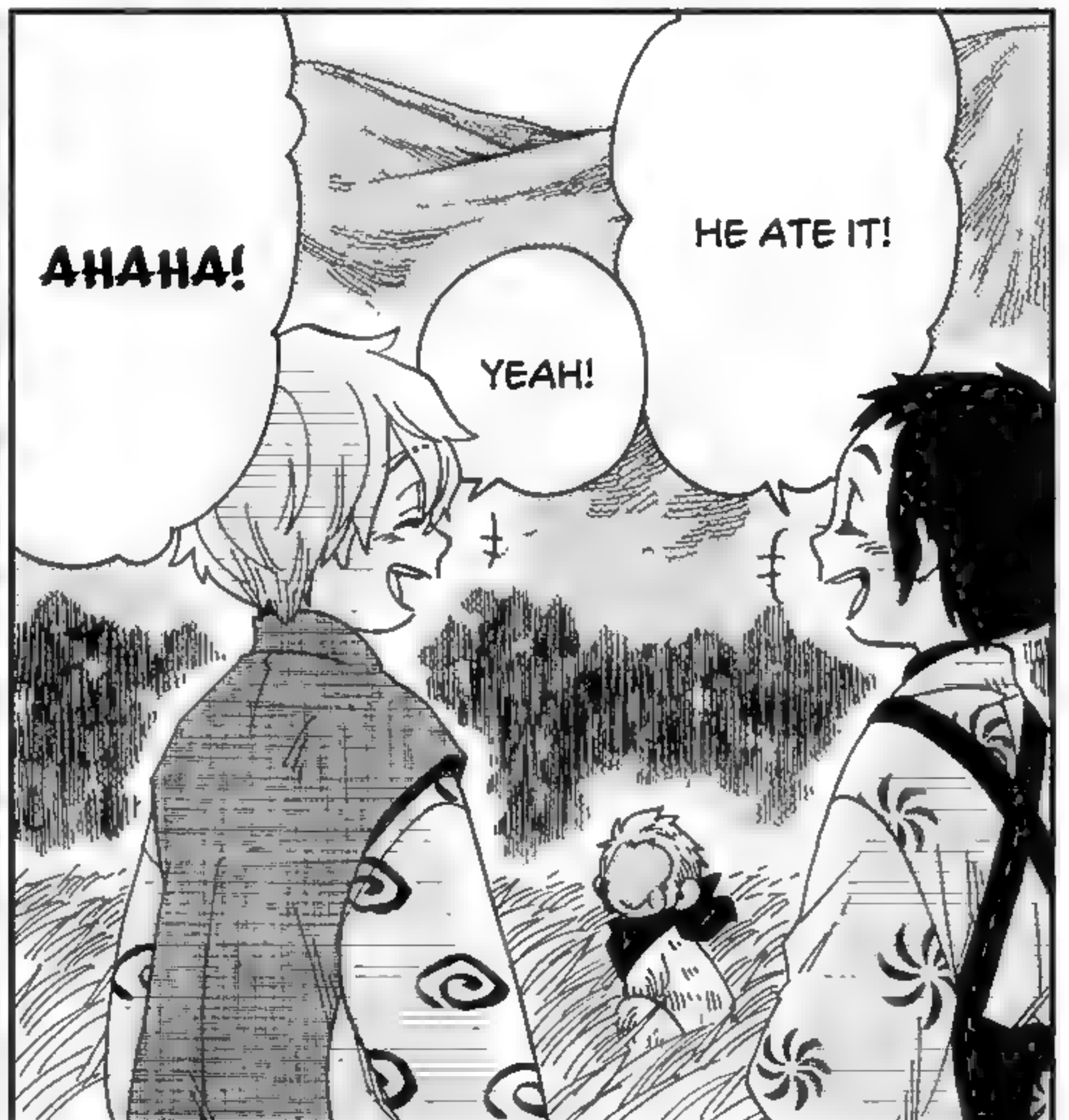




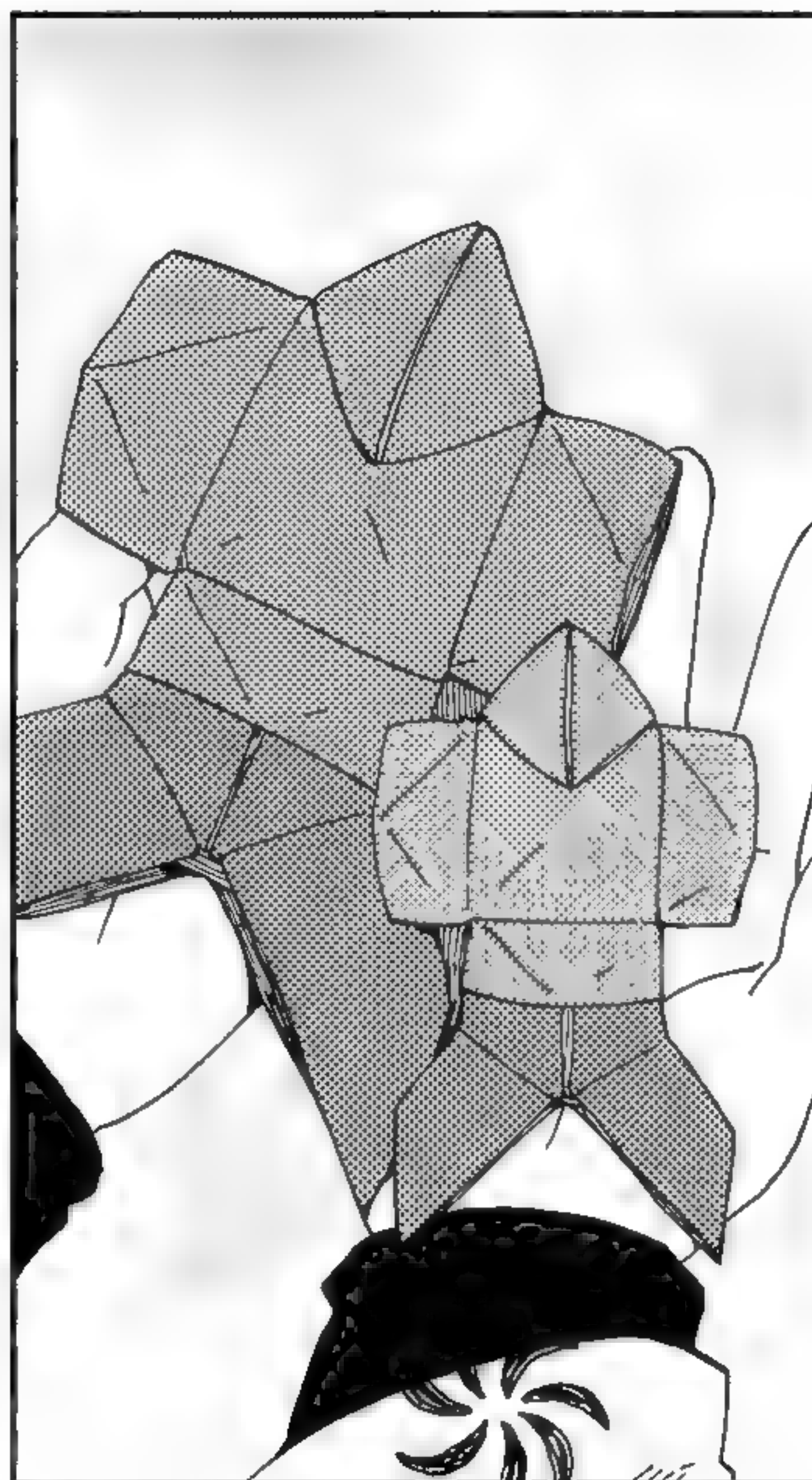


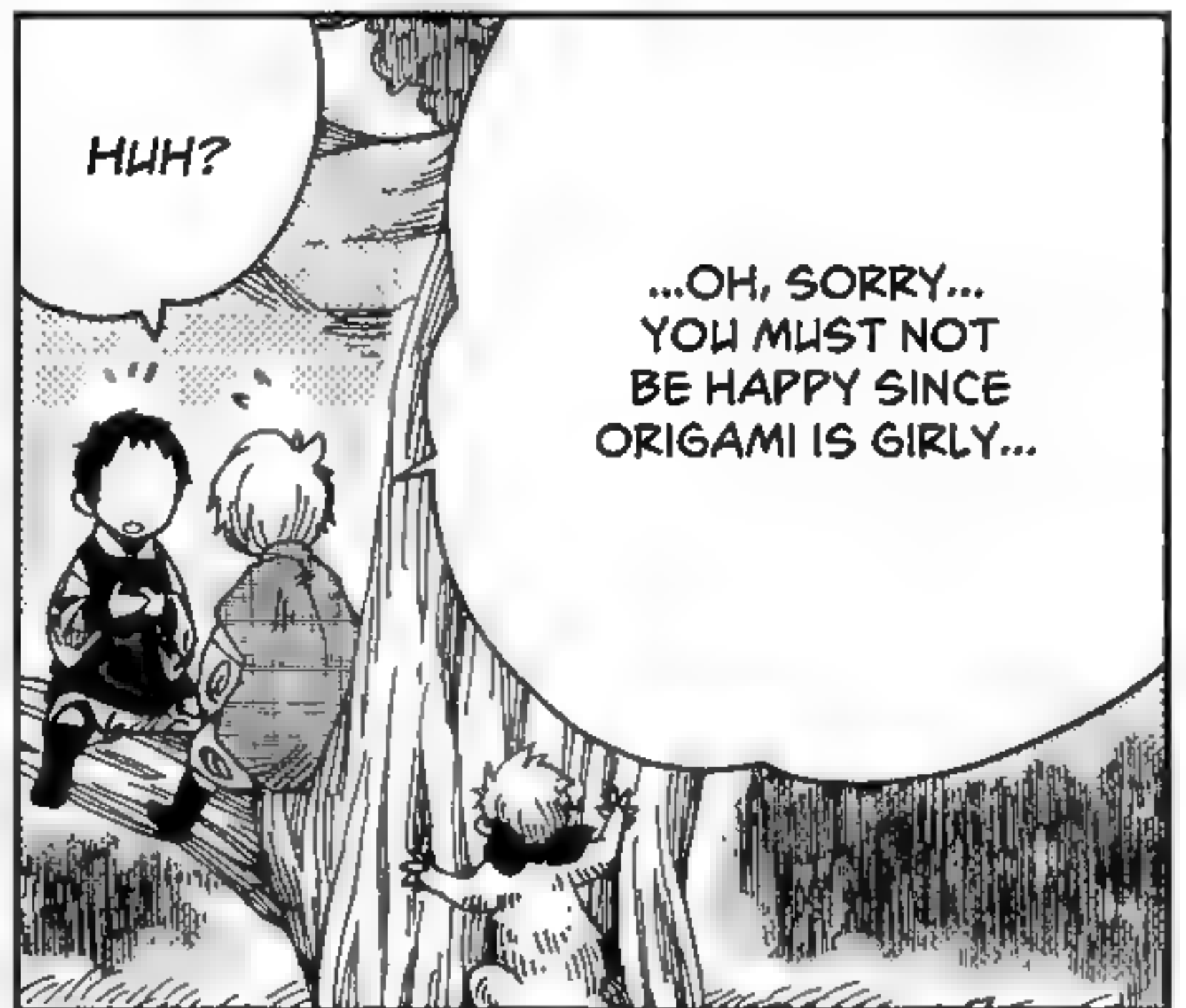
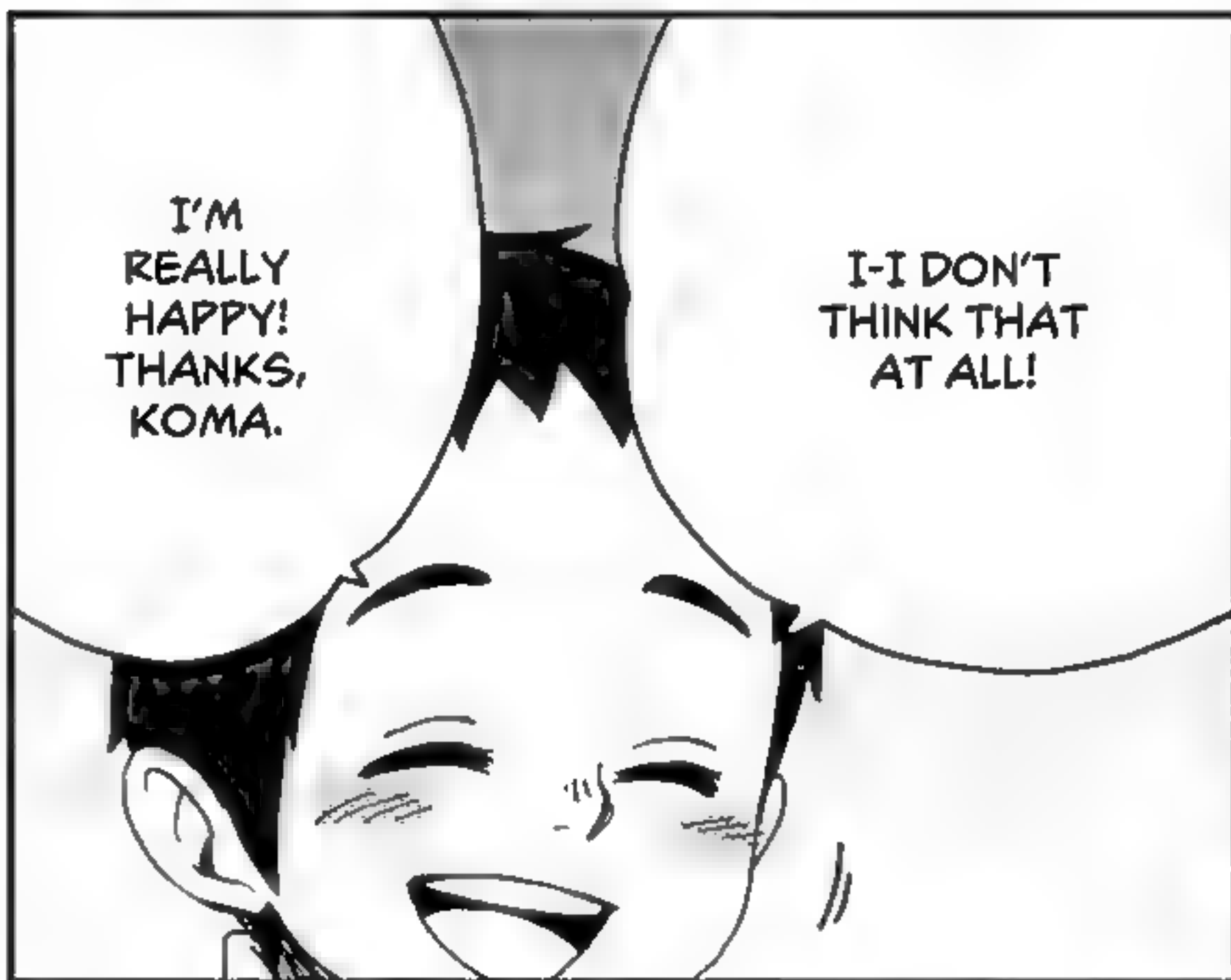








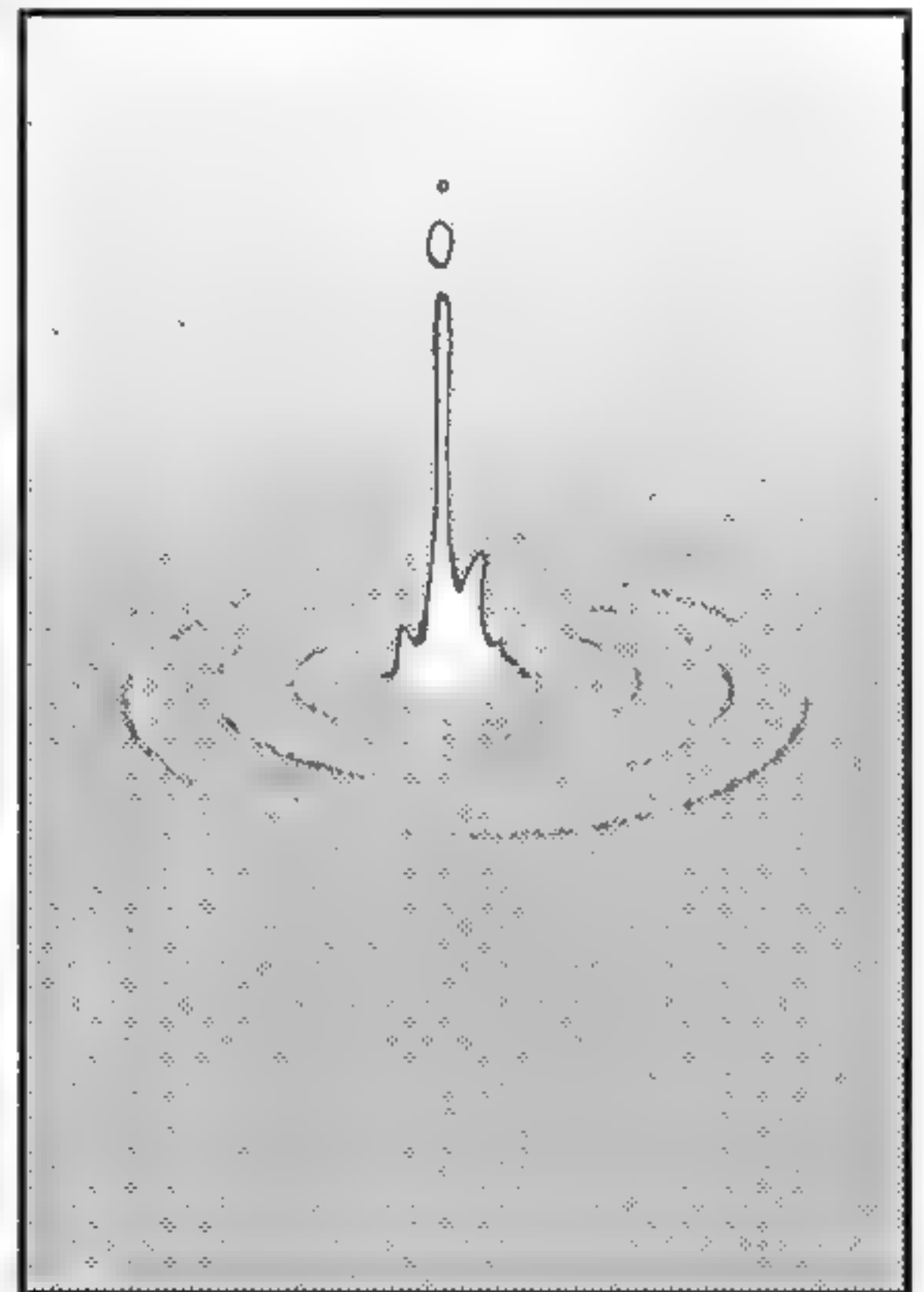
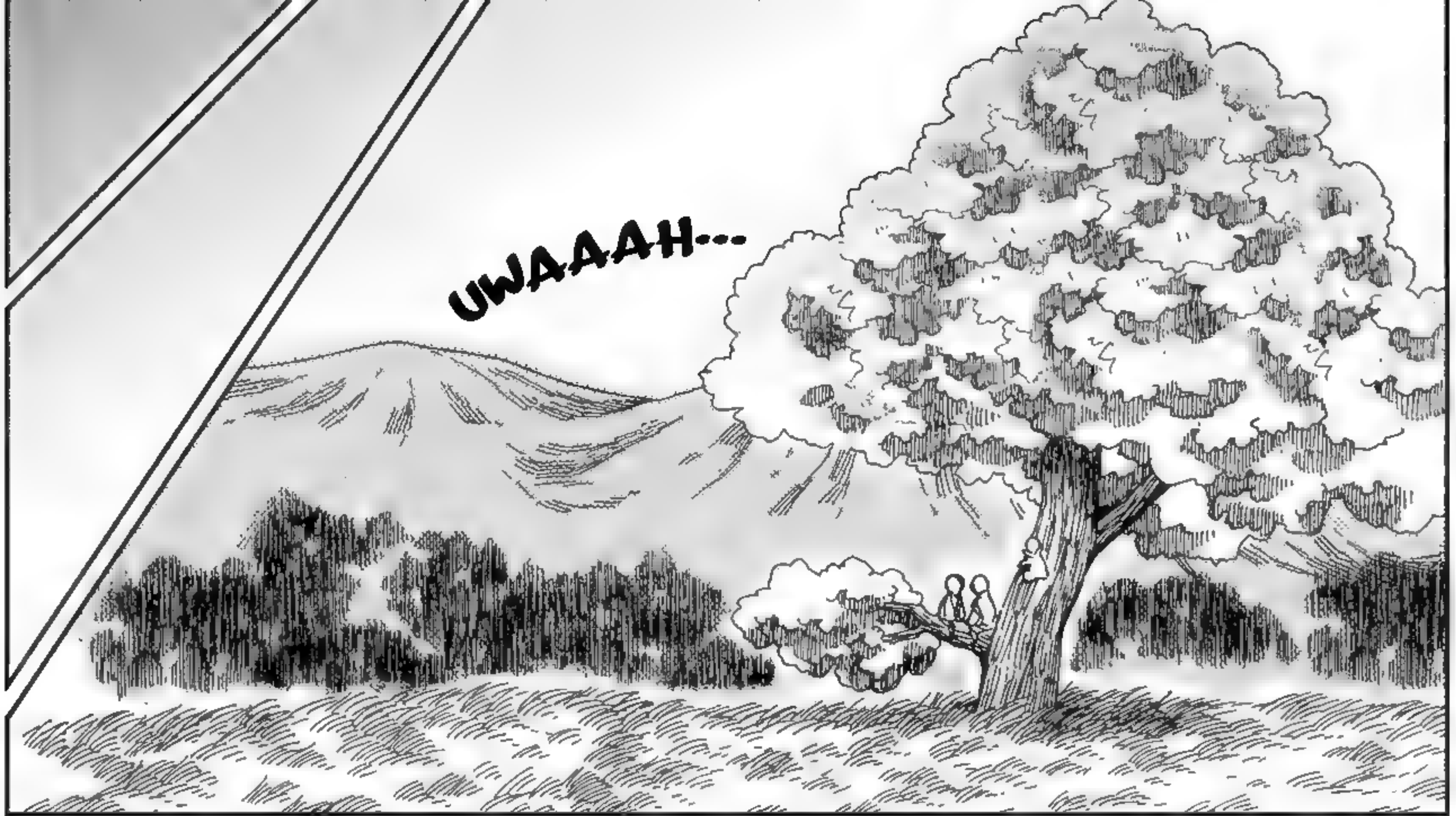


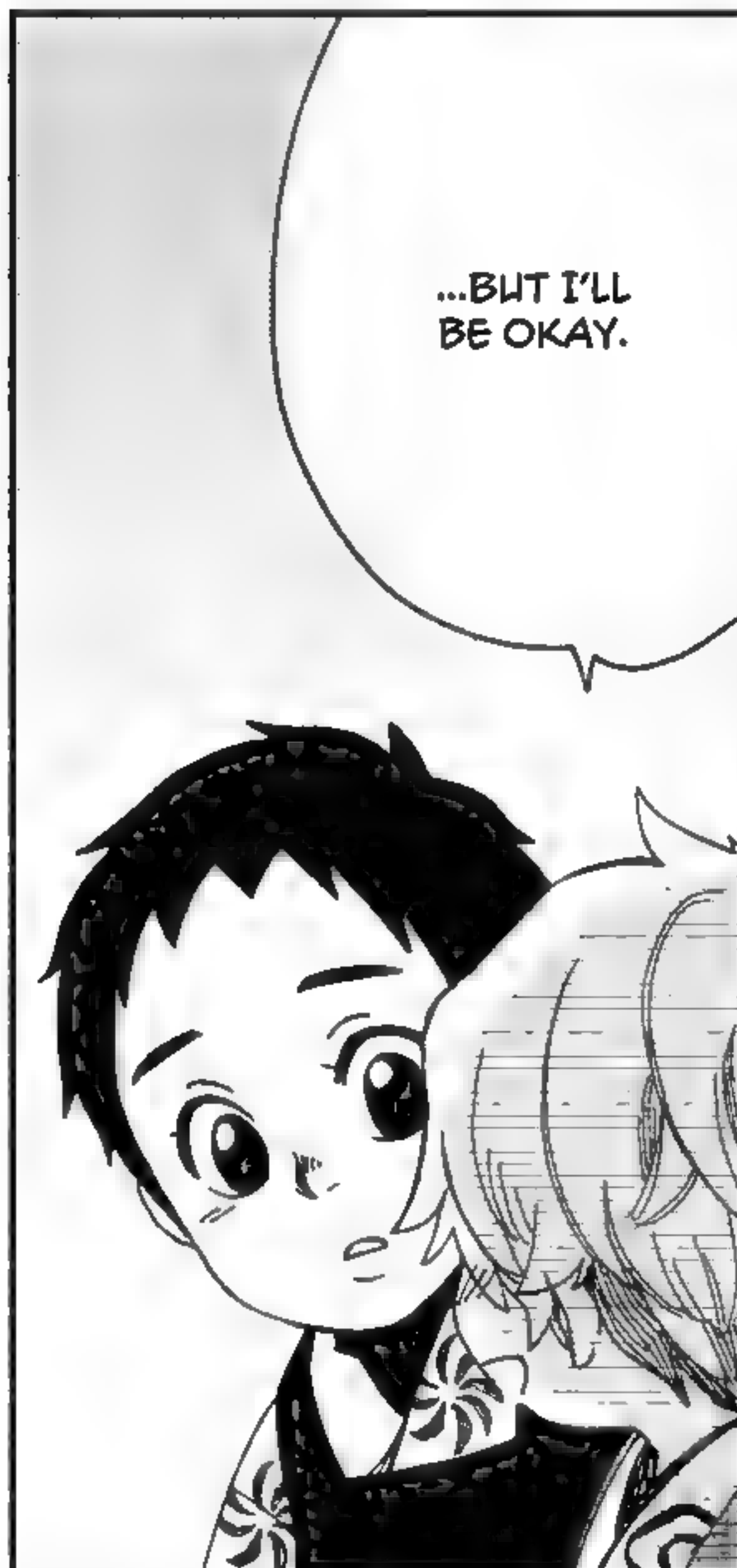














BECAUSE
WHEN I'M SAD
OR LONELY,
I CAN JUST
READ THE
LETTER YOU
GAVE ME!



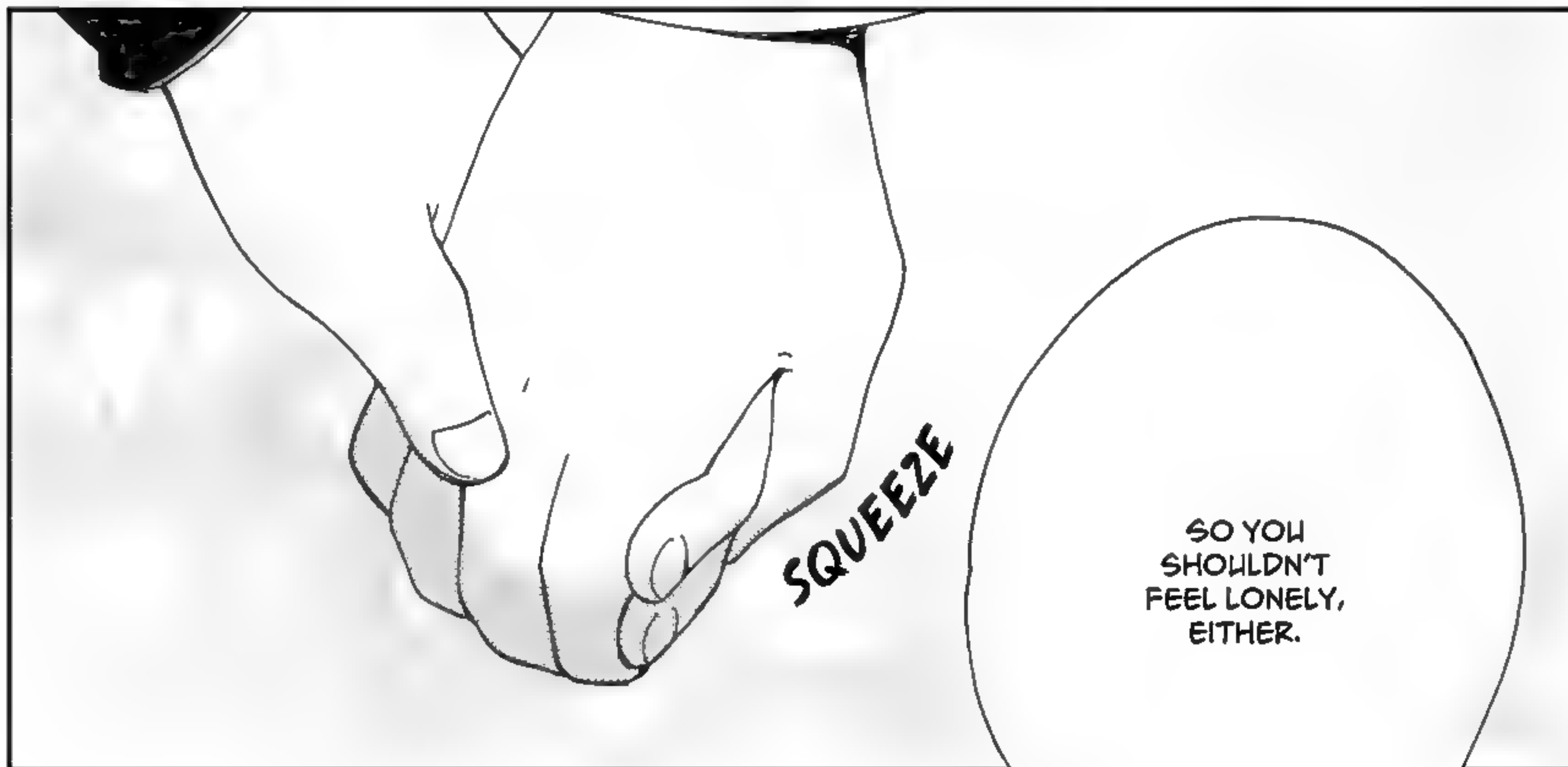
THAT MEANS
YOU'LL BE
OKAY, TOO.



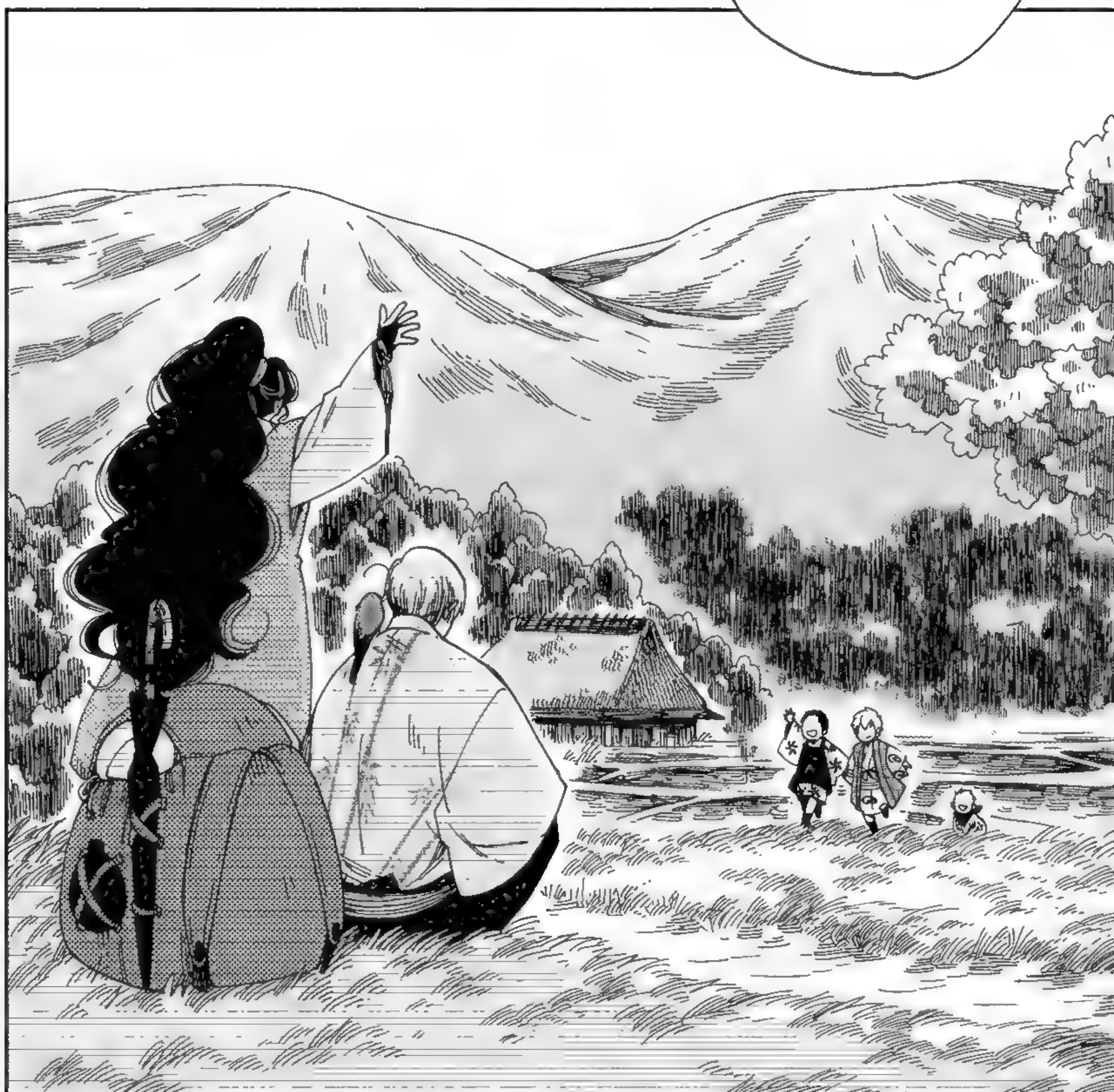
I'M NOT
ALONE
ANYMORE,
SO

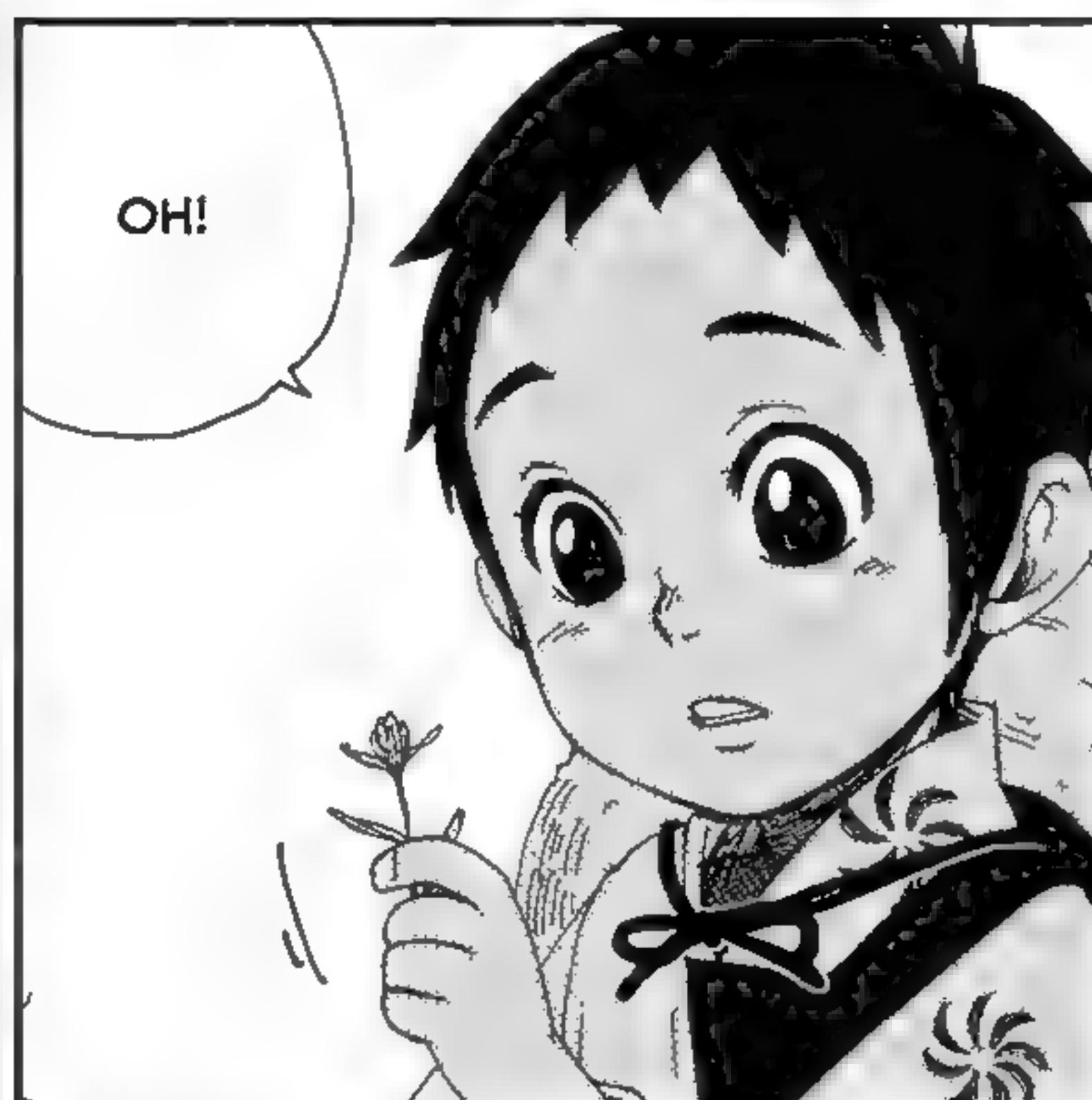
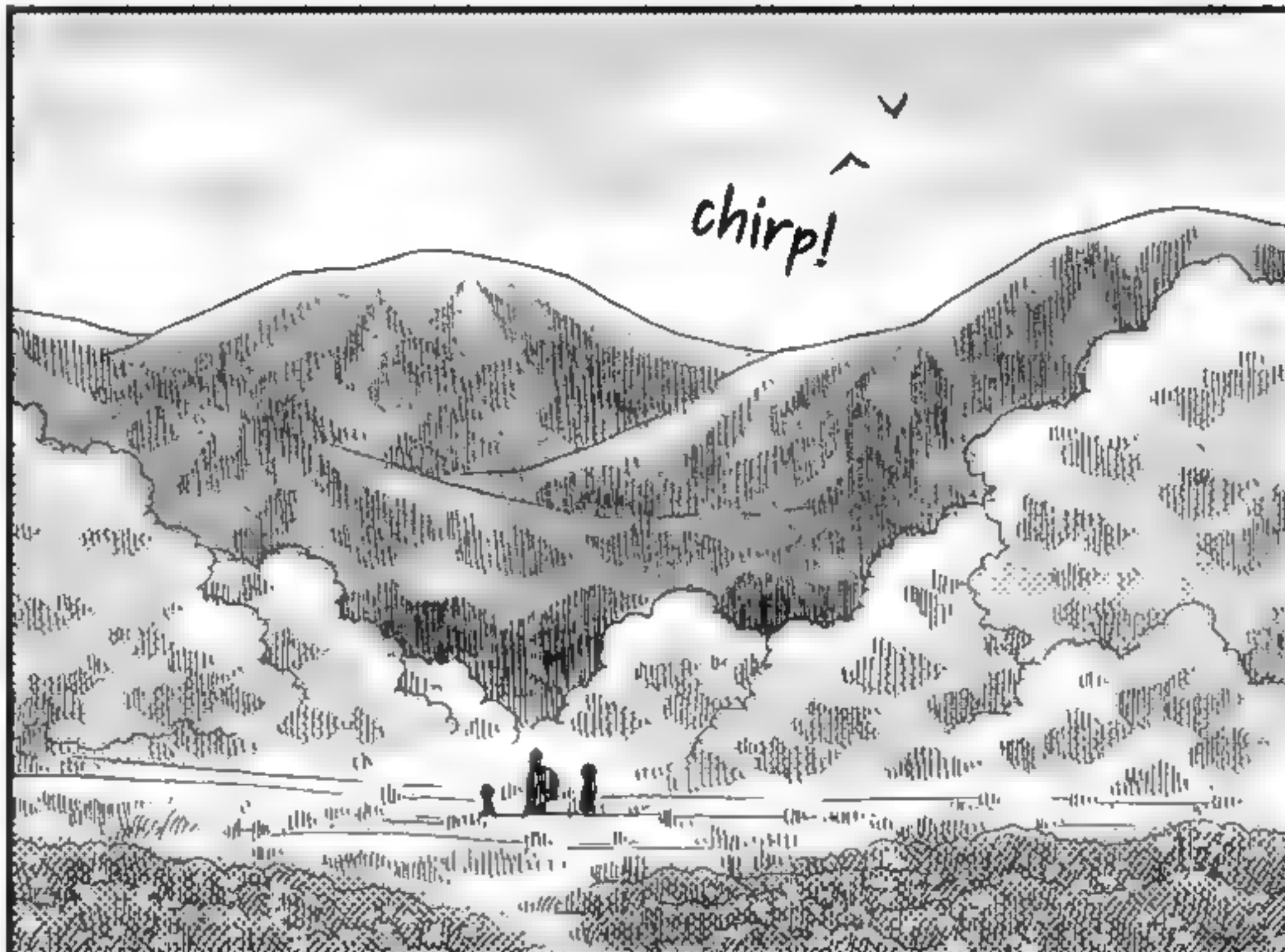
I'LL
DO MY
BEST, NO
MATTER
WHERE
I AM.





SO YOU
SHOULDN'T
FEEL LONELY,
EITHER.





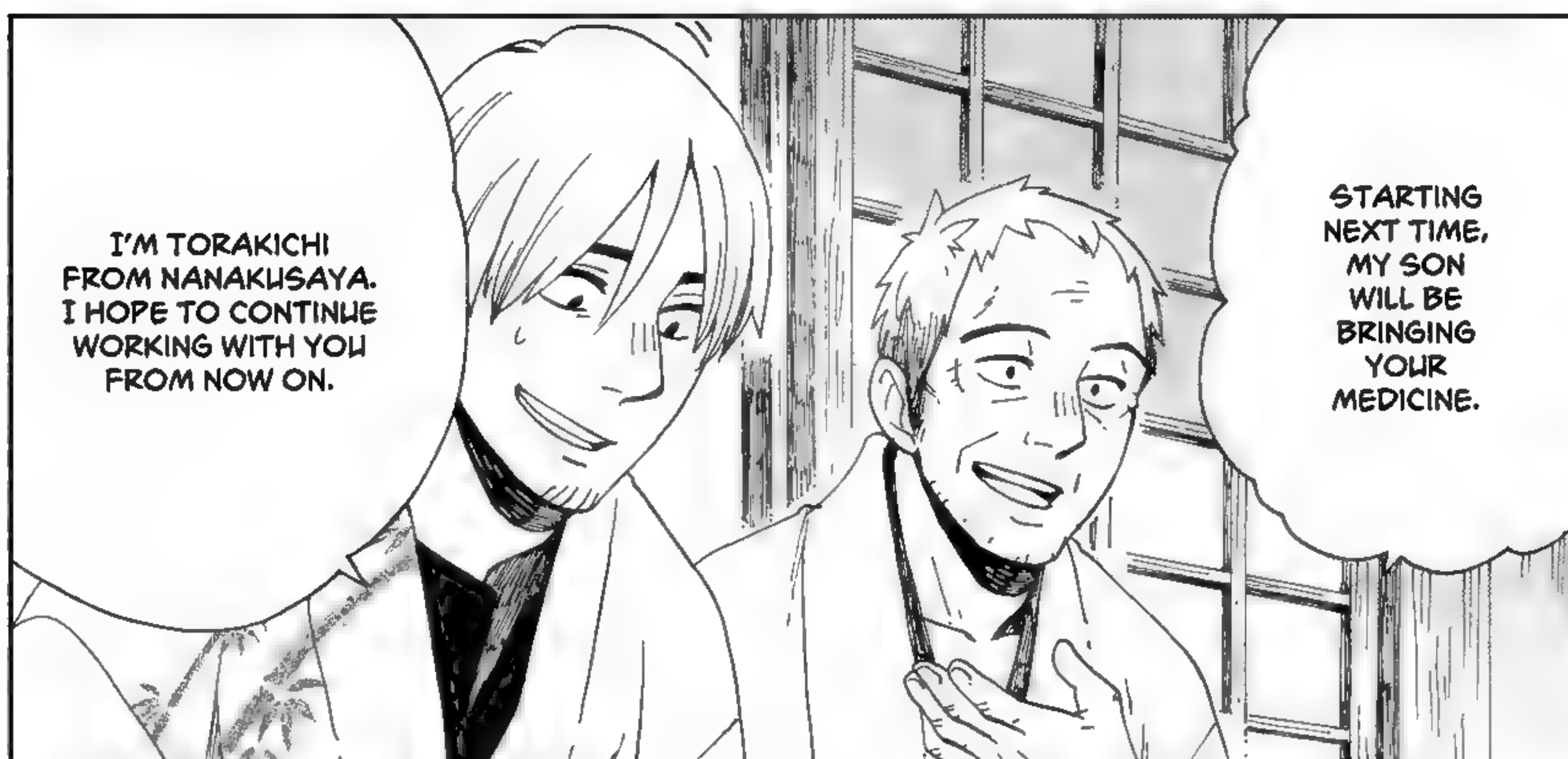
Chapter 47: Shirou's Determination





THANK
YOU, AS
ALWAYS.

This spring,
all 3 genera-
tions of father
and son are
traveling
together.



I'M TORAKICHI
FROM NANAKUSAYA.
I HOPE TO CONTINUE
WORKING WITH YOU
FROM NOW ON.

STARTING
NEXT TIME,
MY SON
WILL BE
BRINGING
YOUR
MEDICINE.



Shirou
is...



I SEE,
I SEE.

INOSUKE-SAN
HAS BEEN
HELPING US
SINCE MY
GRAND-
MOTHER'S
GENERATION.









YOU GUYS
NEED TO BE
QUIETER!



WHAT'S THAT
SUPPOSED
TO MEAN?!

MUST BE A
SIGN OF BAD
LUCK FOR
THE NEW
YEAR.

Haa...
IT'S HARD TO
SAY THIS, BUT
HANGING OUT
WITH A BUNCH
OF SINGLE GUYS
LIKE THIS

SINGLE FOR
5 YEARS

WIDOWER

AHA
HA!

LEFT HIS WIFE



IT'S BEST IF
THE MOTHER
KEEPS MOVING
AROUND.

AH,
TATSUMI-SAN!
I CAN HANDLE
IT, PLEASE, SIT
DOWN AND
REST!



YOU'RE ALL
OLD ENOUGH
TO KNOW
BETTER!



Ah...

GLANCE



HOW MANY
TIMES DO I
HAVE TO TELL
YOU NOT TO ACT
SO NERVOUS?

RATTLE
RATTLE

SHE'S ACTING
COMPLETELY
NORMAL...

I'M GLAD
I'M AN
ADULT...



ANGRY

FIFTH?

PBT!

I'M SO
LUCKY
TO BE
GETTING
A FIFTH
GRANDCHILD.

IS THIS
YOUR
THIRD
ONE,
TATSUN~?



SNEAKS
AWAY...

I EXPECT YOU
TO TELL ME
THE DETAILS
LATER.

CUT IT
OUT
BEFORE
I KILL
YOU!!

HUH?
BUT
WHAT
ABOUT
YOUR-

HEY, YOU MUST
BE GOING SENILE!
DID YOU FORGET
HOW TO COUNT?
THERE'S ONLY 4!!



WE'RE
READY
TO GO TO
AUNT
KAYA'S
PLACE!



YOU'D BETTER
SPILL ALL THE
DETAILS, TOO.

OKAY...



TORA.

EEK



I THOUGHT
IT WAS A
GOOD IDEA,
THOUGH.

THAT GUY COULDN'T
EVEN TAKE CARE
OF HIS OWN KIDS.
WHO IN THEIR RIGHT
MIND WOULD LET
HIM TAKE CARE OF
HIS GRANDCHILD?



ISN'T IT A
GOOD IDEA?



WELL, I ONLY
JUST HEARD
ABOUT IT
RECENTLY...



...BUT
YOU HAVE
A POINT.

YOU'LL HAVE ONE
LESS THING TO
WORRY ABOUT,
SO YOU CAN
RELAX MORE.

NO, I THINK
HE'LL BE
EVEN MORE
WORRIED.

IF YOU LET HIM
LOOK AFTER
SHIROU, YOU
CAN FOCUS ON
OTHER THINGS.



I'VE BEEN
WORRYING THIS
WHOLE TIME
ABOUT WHAT
YOU'LL DO ONCE
SHIROU STARTS
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL.



I'M SURE IT'LL
BE EASIER ON
SHIROU HAVING
A FAMILIAR
FACE NEARBY.

I'LL BE
NEARBY, TOO.

I'M STILL UNEASY
ABOUT IT, BUT I
THINK IT WOULD BE
BEST TO LEAVE
SHIROU WITH HIS
GRANDPA.

REALLY?!



HUH?

DID SHIROU
ALREADY
AGREE TO
ALL OF THIS?



I-I
GUESS
SO...

I'M SURE HE'LL
LIKE IT BETTER
THAN LIVING
WITH HIS DAD'S
NEW WIFE.



AREN'T
THEY CUTE,
SHIROU?!



TALKING ABOUT
IT ALWAYS
PUTS HIM IN A
BAD MOOD...



I DID
BRING IT
UP, BUT..



HAVING TWO
OF THEM
SURE WAS
SUDDEN.

YOU'RE
BEING TOO
LOUD.

THEY LOOK
SO ALIKE!!

THEY'RE
TWINS!



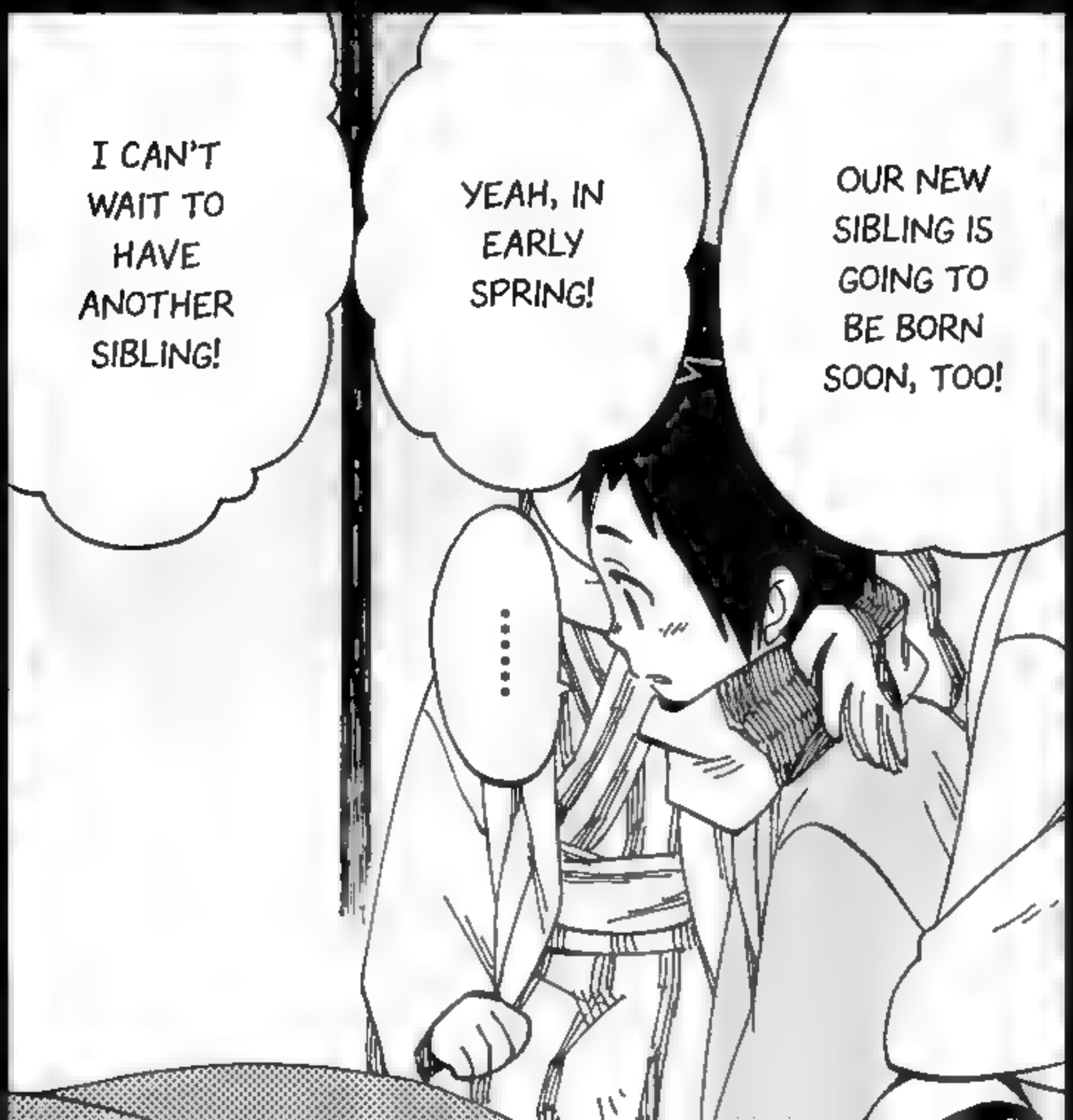
AKANE IS ON
THE RIGHT,
AND MIDORI IS
ON THE LEFT.

WHICH
ONE'S
WHICH?



SHIROU-CHAN.

JOLT

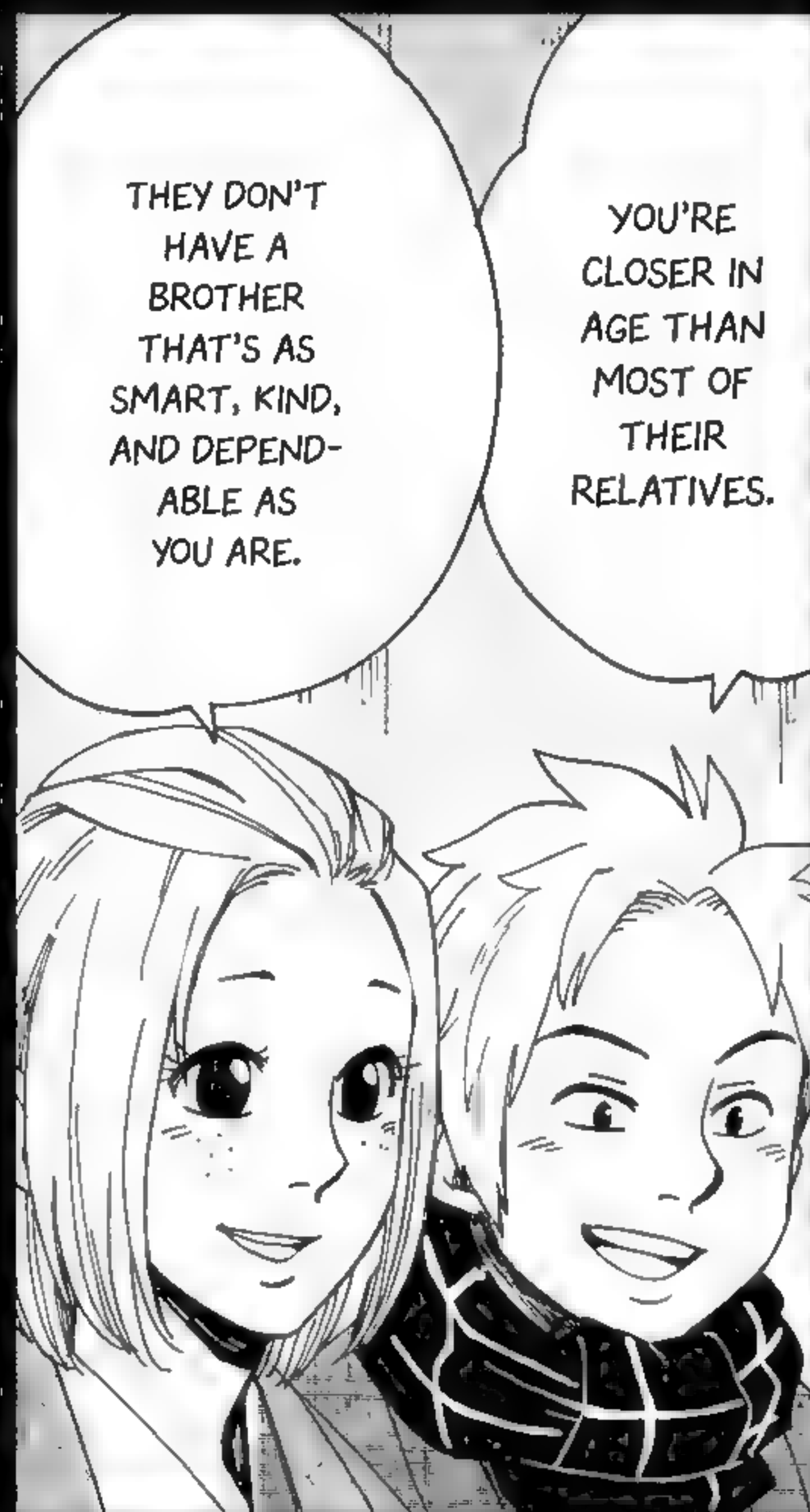


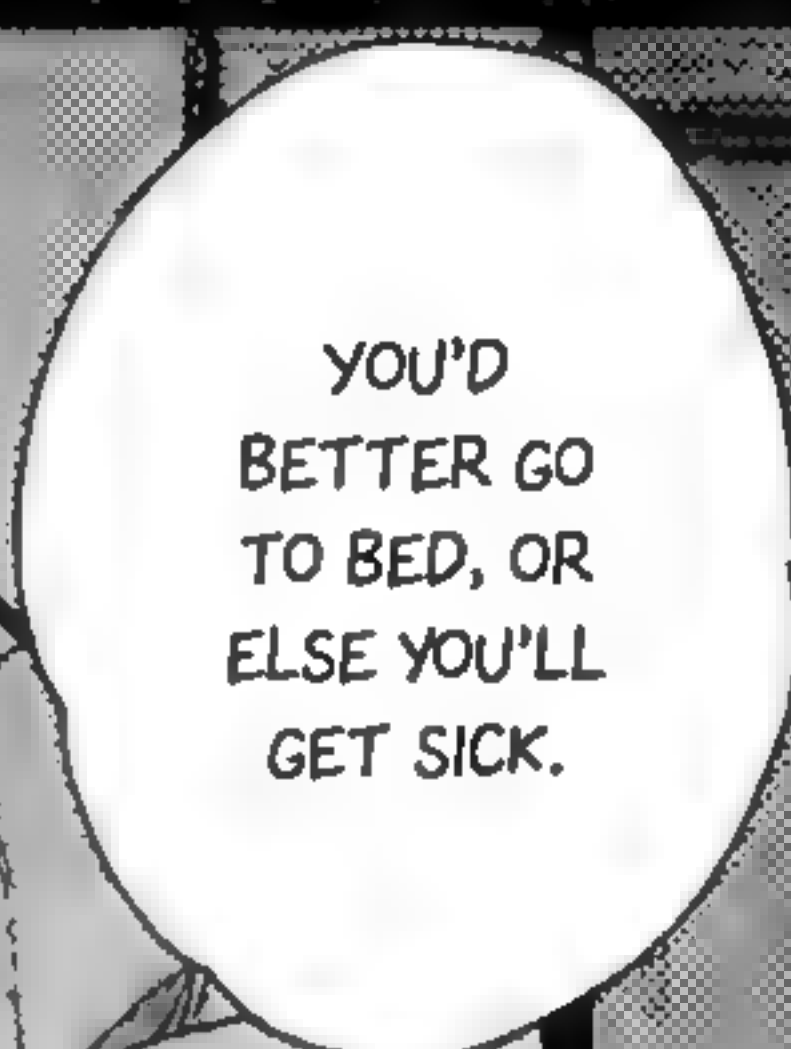
I CAN'T
WAIT TO
HAVE
ANOTHER
SIBLING!

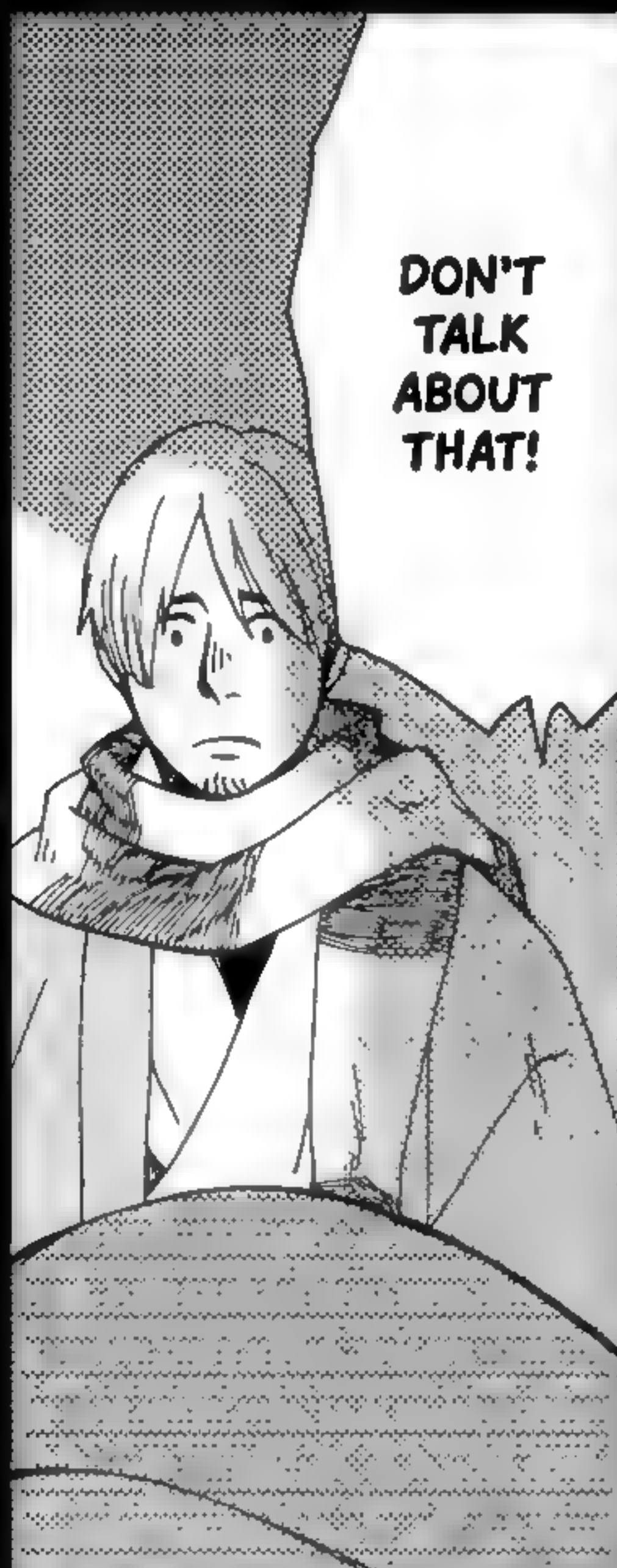
YEAH, IN
EARLY
SPRING!

OUR NEW
SIBLING IS
GOING TO
BE BORN
SOON, TOO!

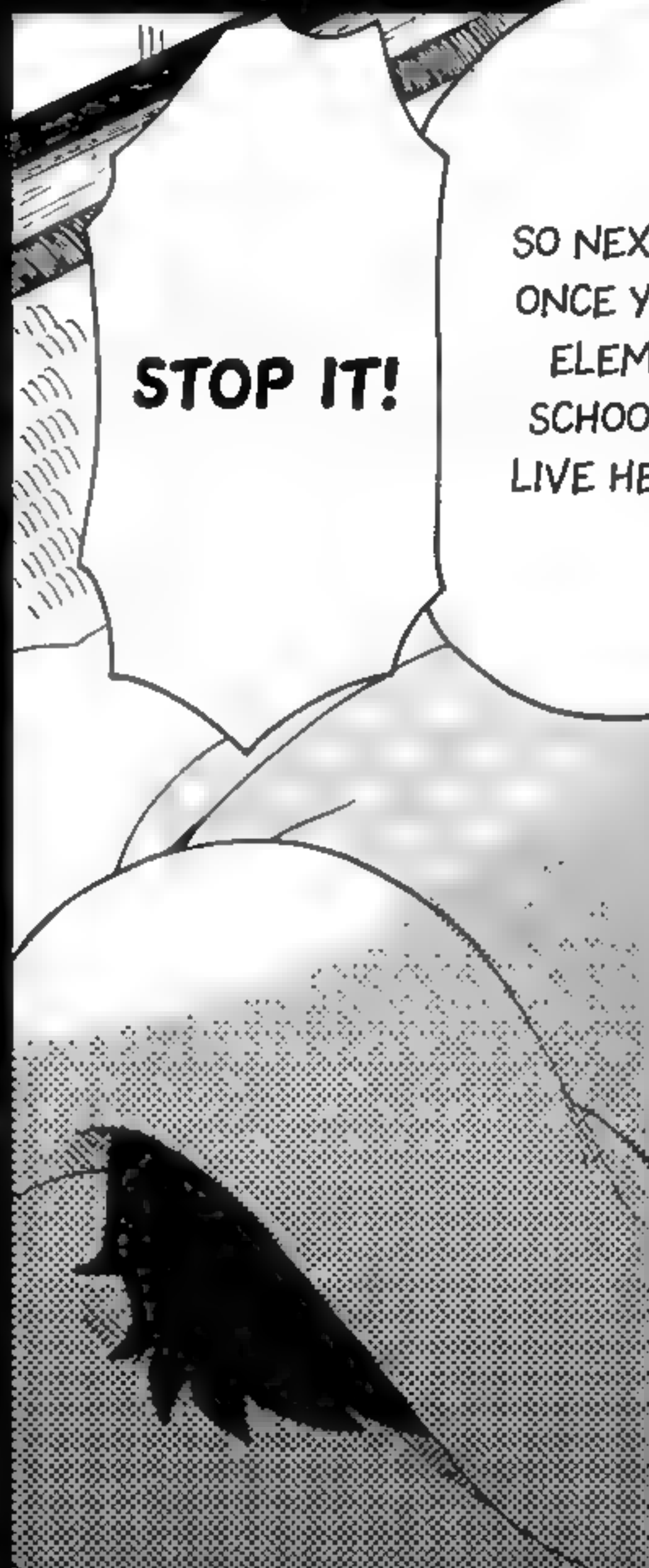
...







DON'T
TALK
ABOUT
THAT!



STOP IT!

SO NEXT SPRING,
ONCE YOU START
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL, YOU'LL
LIVE HERE WITH-

I KNOW WE
TALKED ABOUT
IT BEFORE, BUT
I'LL BE REALLY
BUSY STARTING
IN THE SPRING.



GOOD NIGHT.

SQUEEZE



I'M SORRY.

...THEN I'LL
SAVE IT FOR
ANOTHER
TIME.





CLINK



I'M SCARED THAT
THIS IS THE SAME
AS WHEN I LEFT
HIM WHEN HE WAS
STILL A BABY.



...WELL,
I'M NO
EXPERT,
BUT...



HUH?

HURRY UP
AND GET
READY.



**STOP IT!
MY HEART
CAN'T
TAKE IT!**

THE SITUATION IS
DIFFERENT, AND
SHIROU HAS GROWN UP
A LOT SINCE THEN,
BUT HE'S STILL GOING
TO FEEL JUST AS SAD
AND LONELY.



Y-YOU
MIGHT BE
RIGHT...

SHIROU DOESN'T
WANT TO LISTEN
TO YOU BECAUSE
YOU'RE BEING
WISHY-WASHY.



I JUST CAN'T
STAND THE
THOUGHT OF
BEING APART
FROM HIM...

I DON'T
MEAN TO BE
WISHY-WASHY...

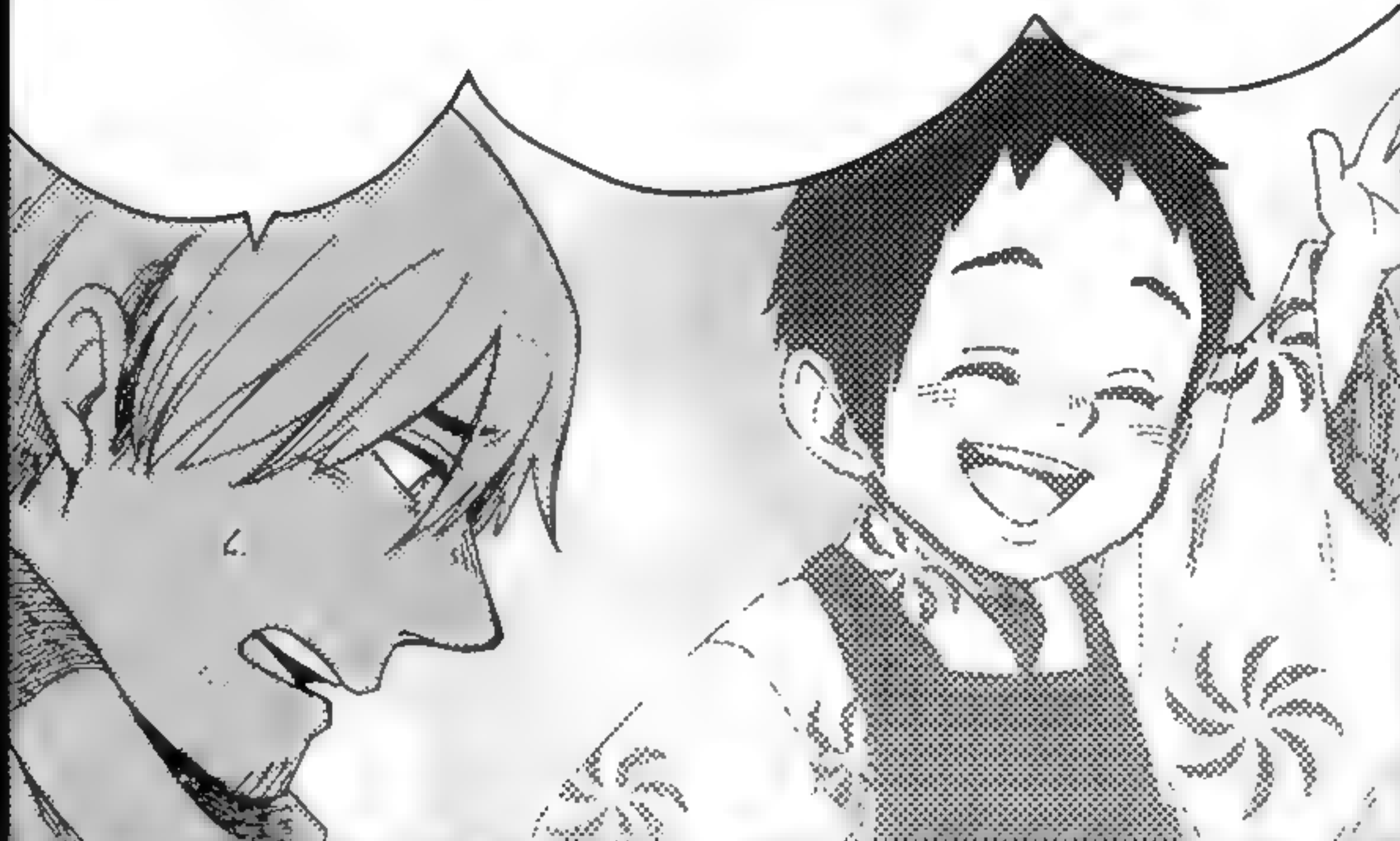
I WAS ONLY
ABLE TO
STAND ON
MY OWN TWO
FEET BECAUSE
OF HIM.

AT FIRST, I
REGRETTED
BRINGING ALONG A
BOTHERSOME KID
THAT JUST GOT IN
THE WAY, BUT

SHIROU WAS
MY RAY OF
SUNSHINE.

DON'T
LAUGH!

HAHAHA!



...HEY,
TORAKICHI?



I'D JUST...

WITHOUT
HIM THERE,





WHAT
WAS
THAT
FOR?!

DID
NEE-CHAN'S
FISTS HARDEN
UP YOUR
HEAD?!

OWWWW!

That
hurt!



!?

SFX: Bonk



YOU HAVE
ANOTHER
YEAR
TOGETHER,
RIGHT?

IT'S NOT
LIKE THIS
IS YOUR
LAST TIME
SEEING HIM.

Y-YEAH...



WHAT ARE YOU
STILL DOING
HERE?! GO BE A
PROPER DAD!



IF YOU DON'T
HAVE MUCH TIME
LEFT, THEN JUST
SPEND AS MUCH
TIME TOGETHER
AS YOU CAN!

USE THE TIME
YOU HAVE LEFT
TO GIVE HIM
LOTS OF HUGS!

TELL HIM
LOTS OF
STORIES!



I'VE ALWAYS
BEEN ENVIOUS
OF YOU TWO.

GOOD
NIGHT.



YOU'RE A
GOOD DAD
WITH A
GOOD KID.

POMF



YAWN

WHEN THE TIME
COMES, YOU'LL BOTH
BE STRONG ENOUGH
TO BE WITHOUT
EACH OTHER.

I'M
GOING
TO
BED.

RUSTLE



...



SEE YA~

HAS DAD
EVER TAKEN
CARE OF
SHIROU...?



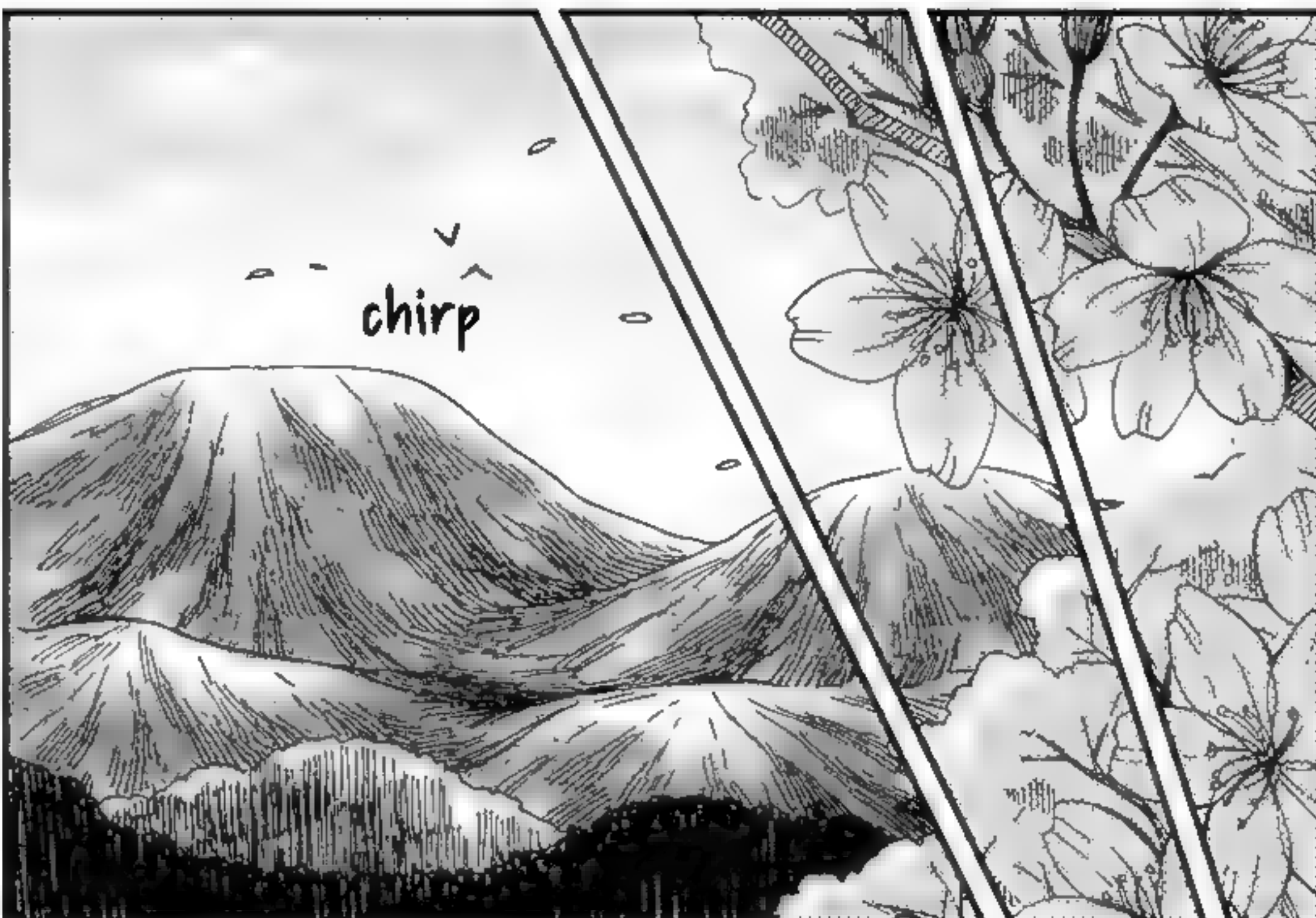
Oh yeah

I DIDN'T
SAY THIS
EARLIER,
BUT I
THINK YOU
CAN TRUST
THE OLD
MAN.

HE MAY
NOT LOOK
LIKE IT,
BUT HE'LL
BE GOOD AT
TAKING
CARE OF
SHIROU.



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
PATRONAGE.



chirp



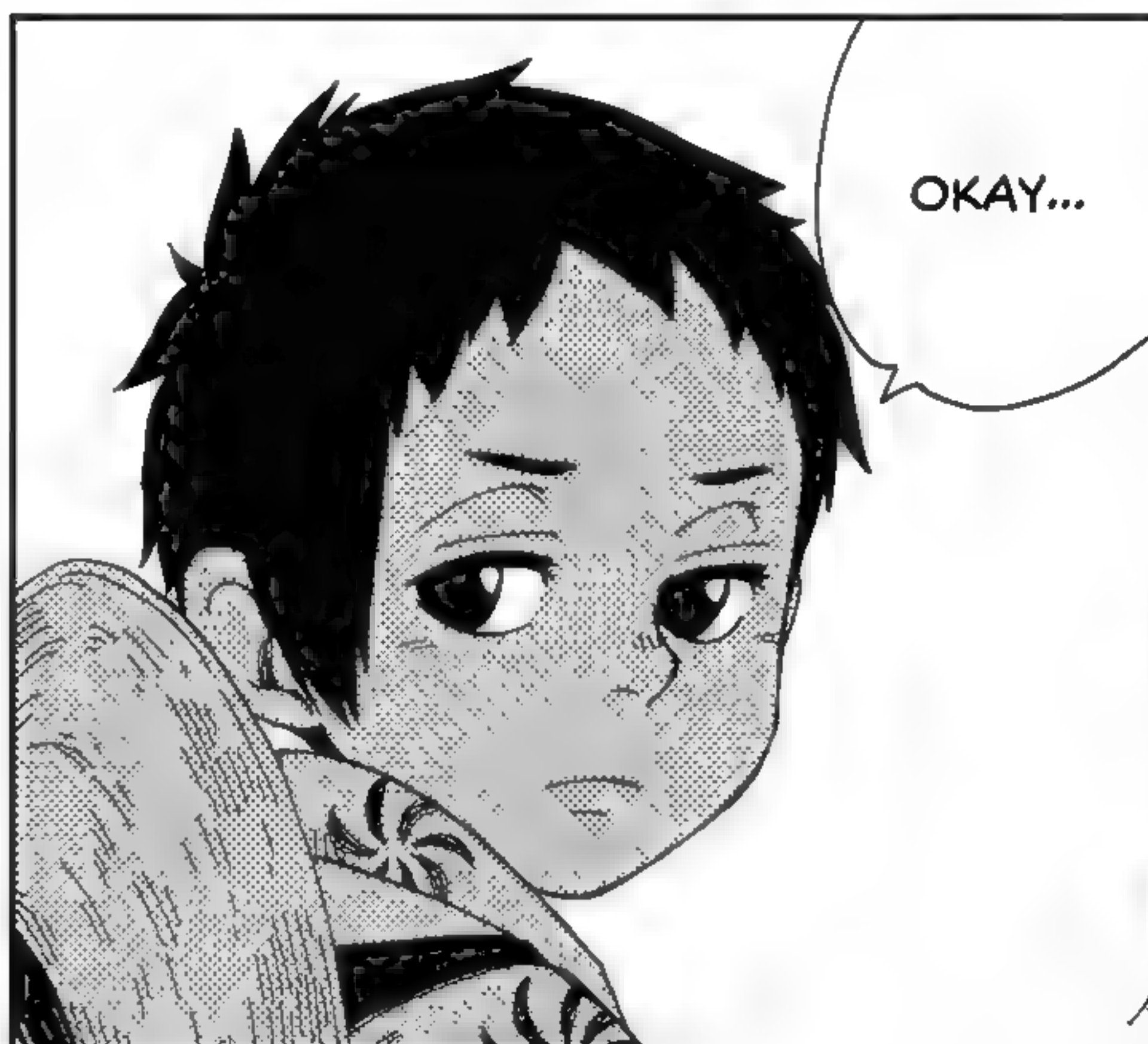
DID THOSE
TWO SLOW-
POKES
FINALLY
CATCH UP?



HEEY,
TORA!!



NEXT IS...



OKAY...



SHIROW-CHAN,
GO TELL YOUR
DAD "GOOD
WORK"!

HEY!



HE'S
BASICALLY
DAD'S KID AT
THIS POINT!



WHAT'S
WITH
HIM... ?!



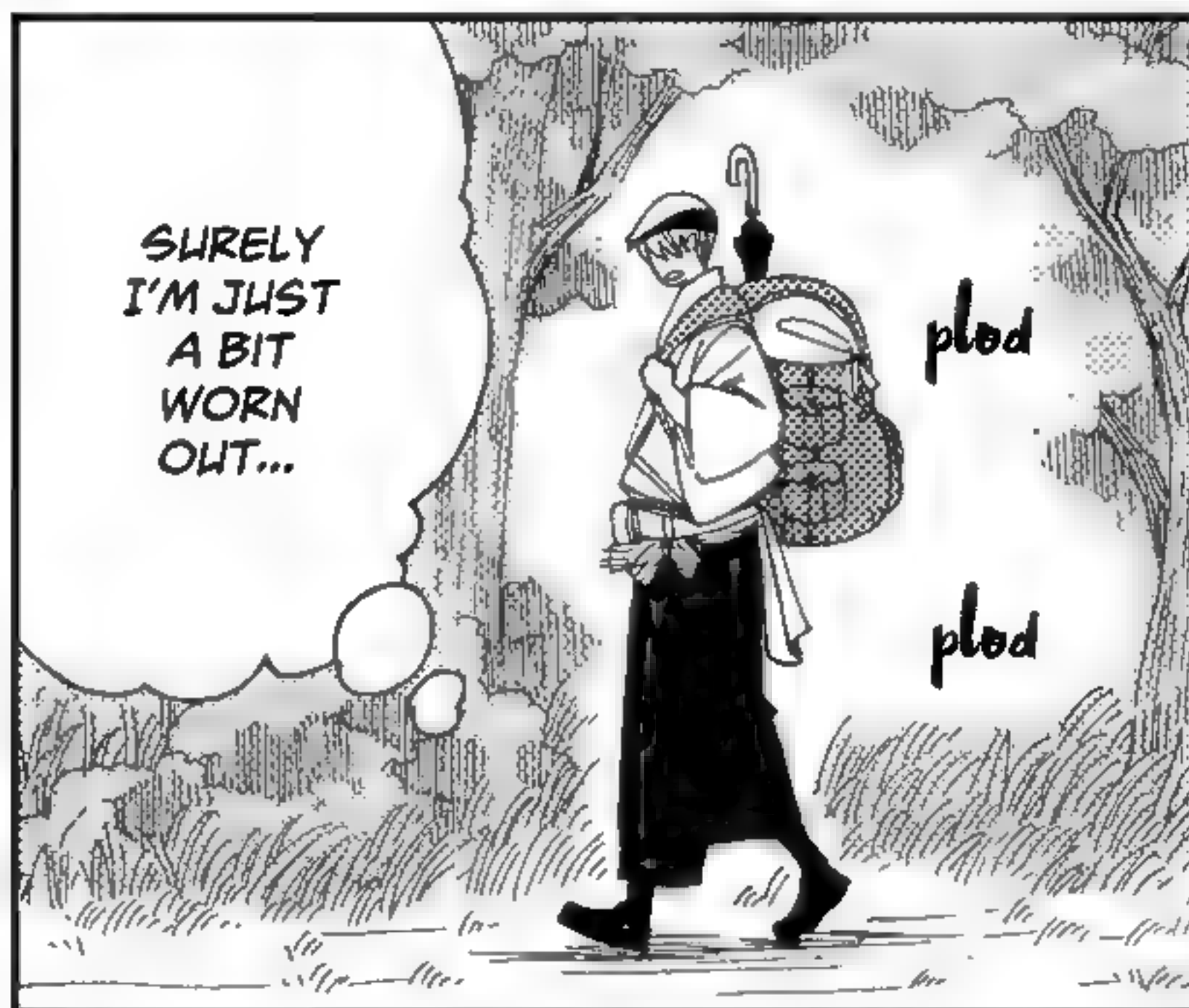
NEVERMIND.
LET'S PLAY
OVER THERE,
GRAMPA!



THAT'S RIGHT,
SHIROU DOESN'T
KNOW ABOUT MY
SITUATION WITH
WORK.

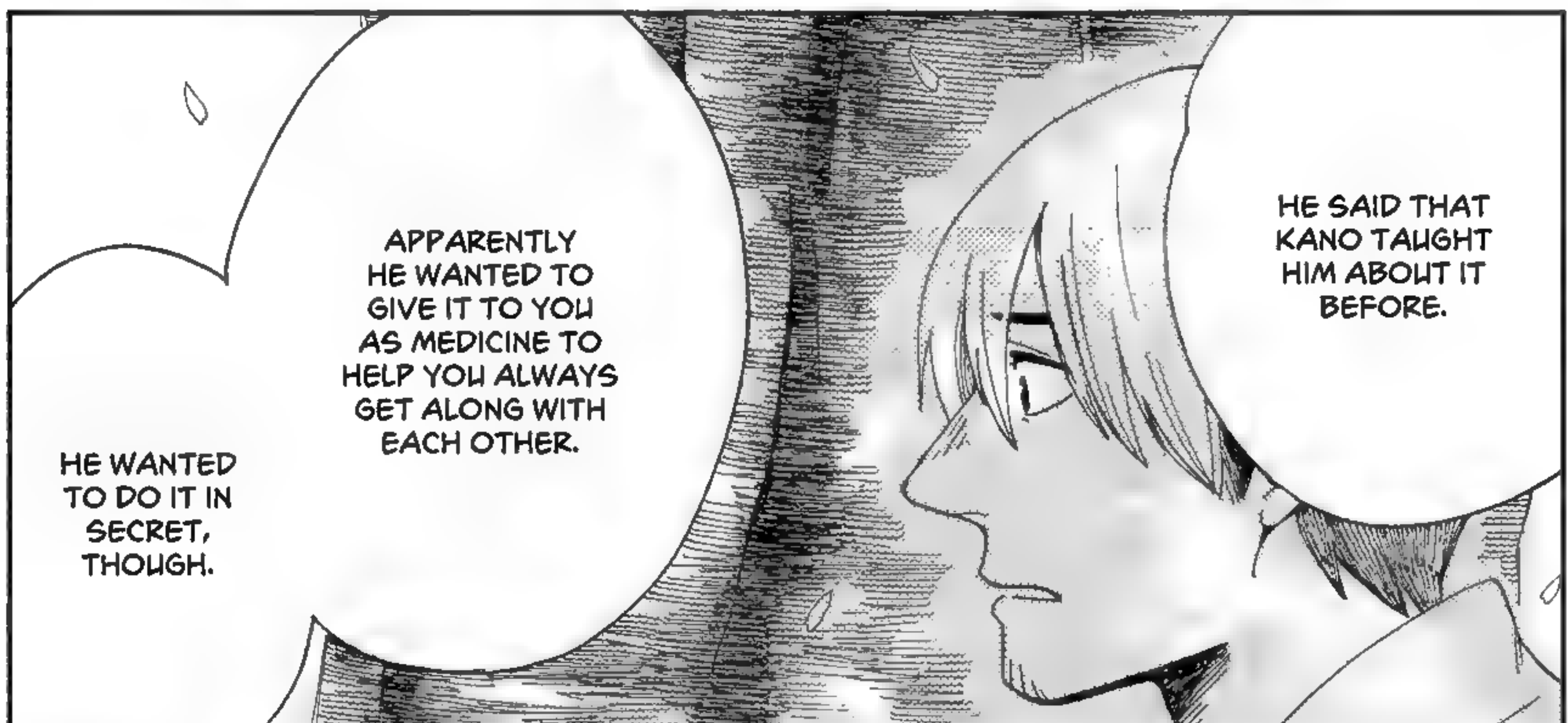
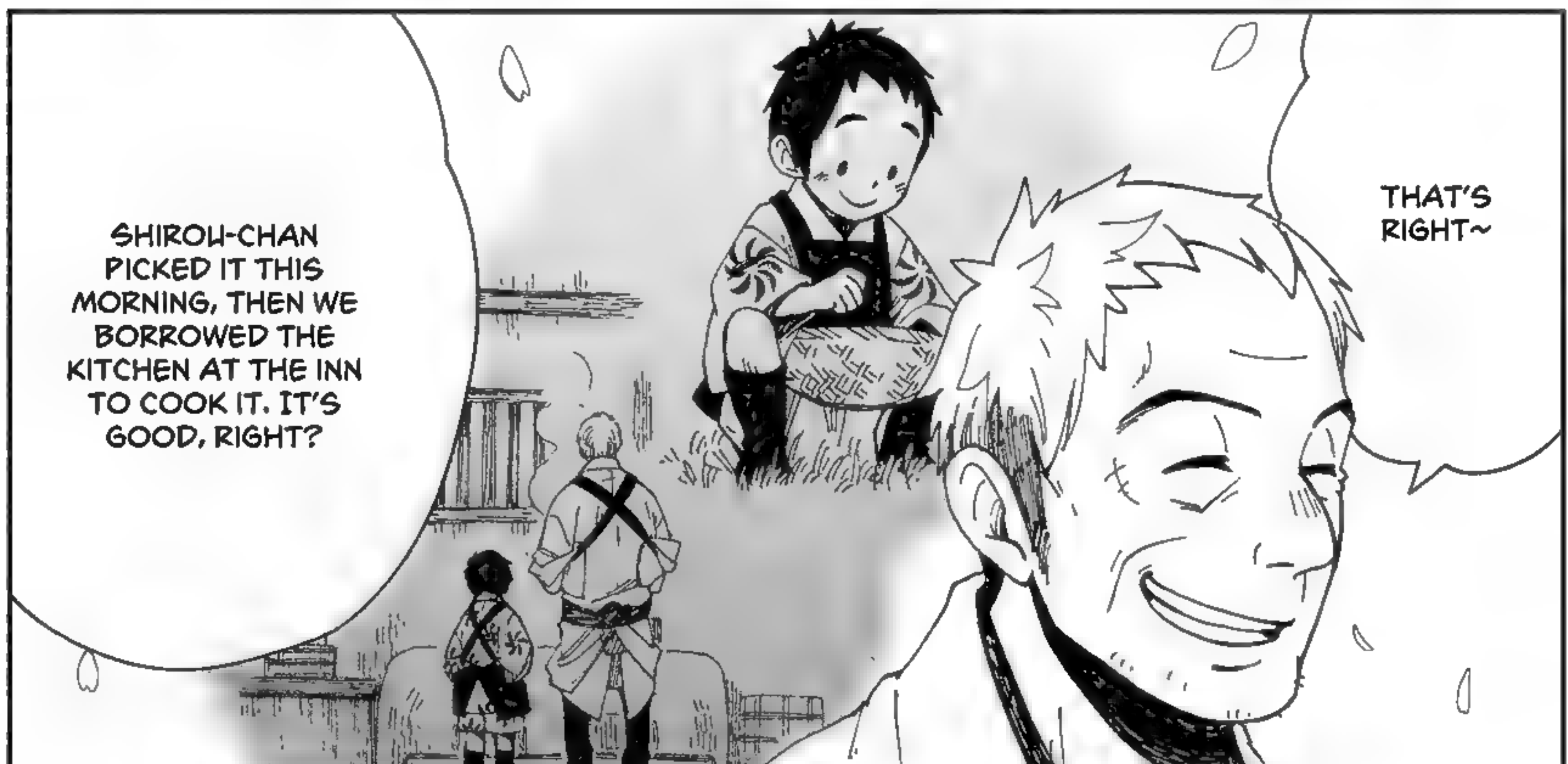
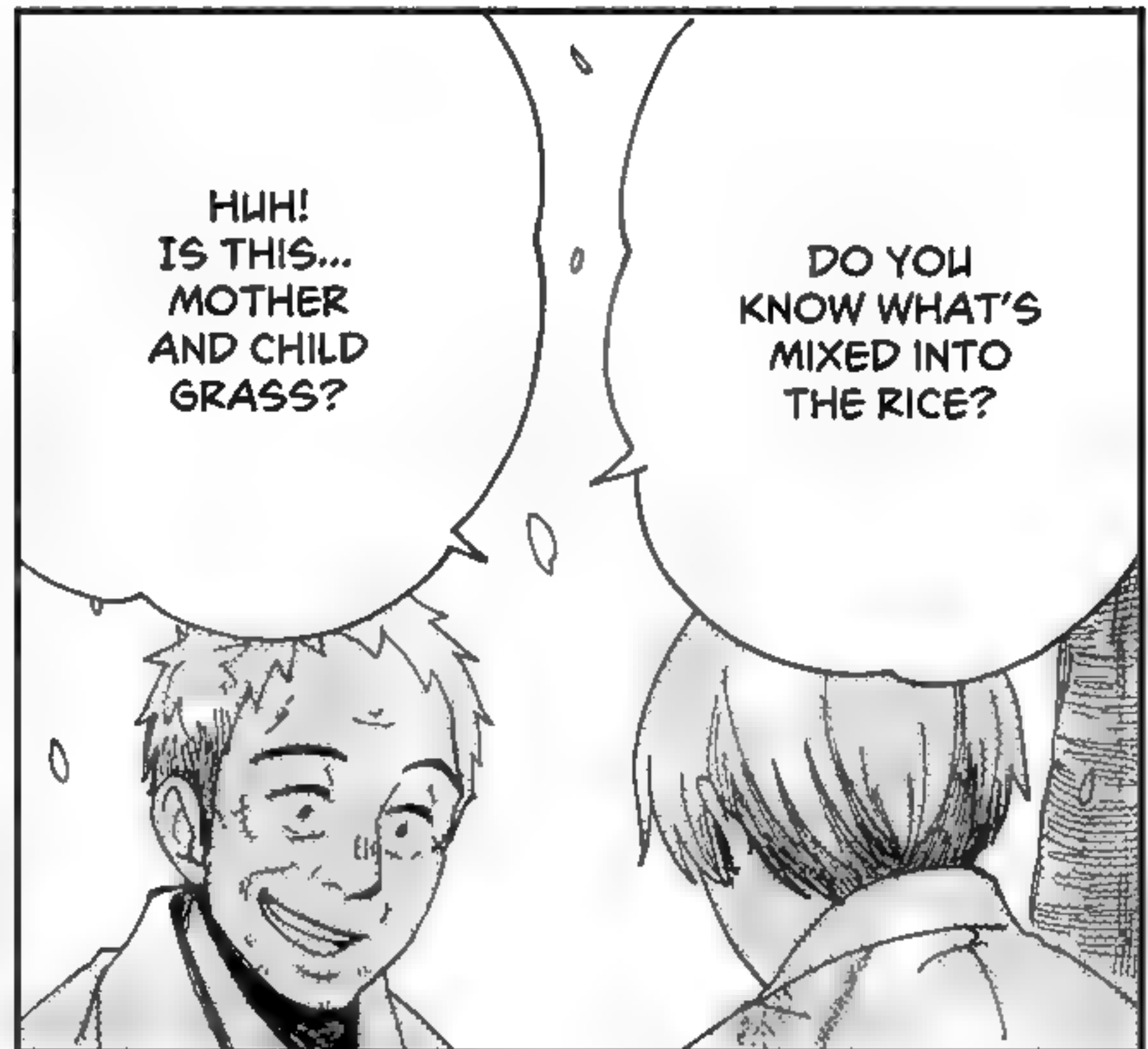


NO, I SHOULDN'T
HOLD IN MY ANGER,
RIGHT? IT'S JUST
SETTING ME UP
FOR FAILURE...











SO HE'S BEEN
WORKING HARD
TO BE MORE
INDEPENDENT
AS HE LOOKS
TOWARD LIVING
WITH ME.

HE DOESN'T
WANT TO GET
IN THE WAY
OF YOUR
WORK,



SHIROU-CHAN
IS AMAZING,
HE'S BEEN
THINKING
ABOUT
THIS A LOT.

HE...



HIS FEELINGS ARE
STILL COMPLICATED,
BUT I WONDER IF HE'S
STARTED MAKING
SOME DECISIONS.



SHIROU!



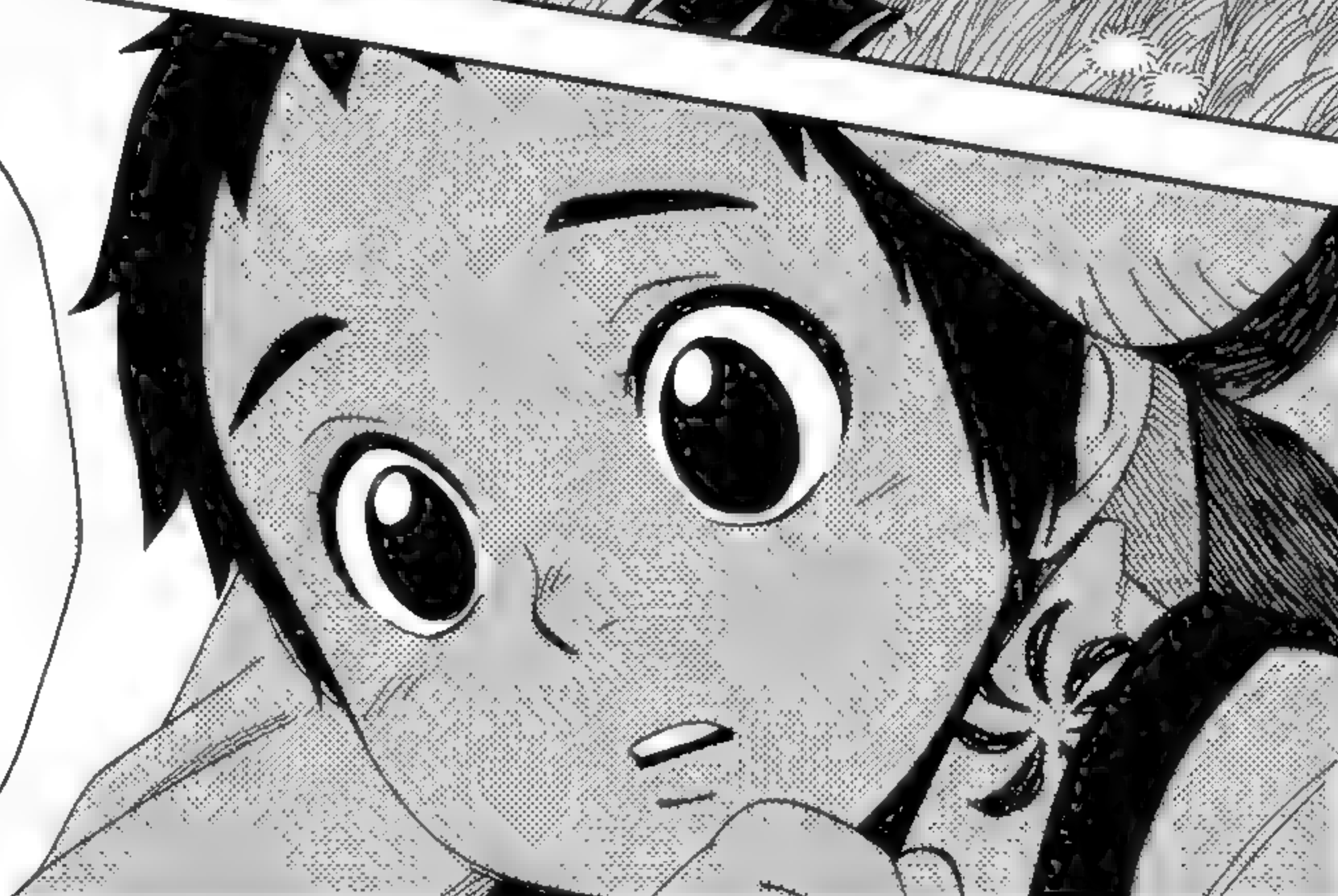
DASH

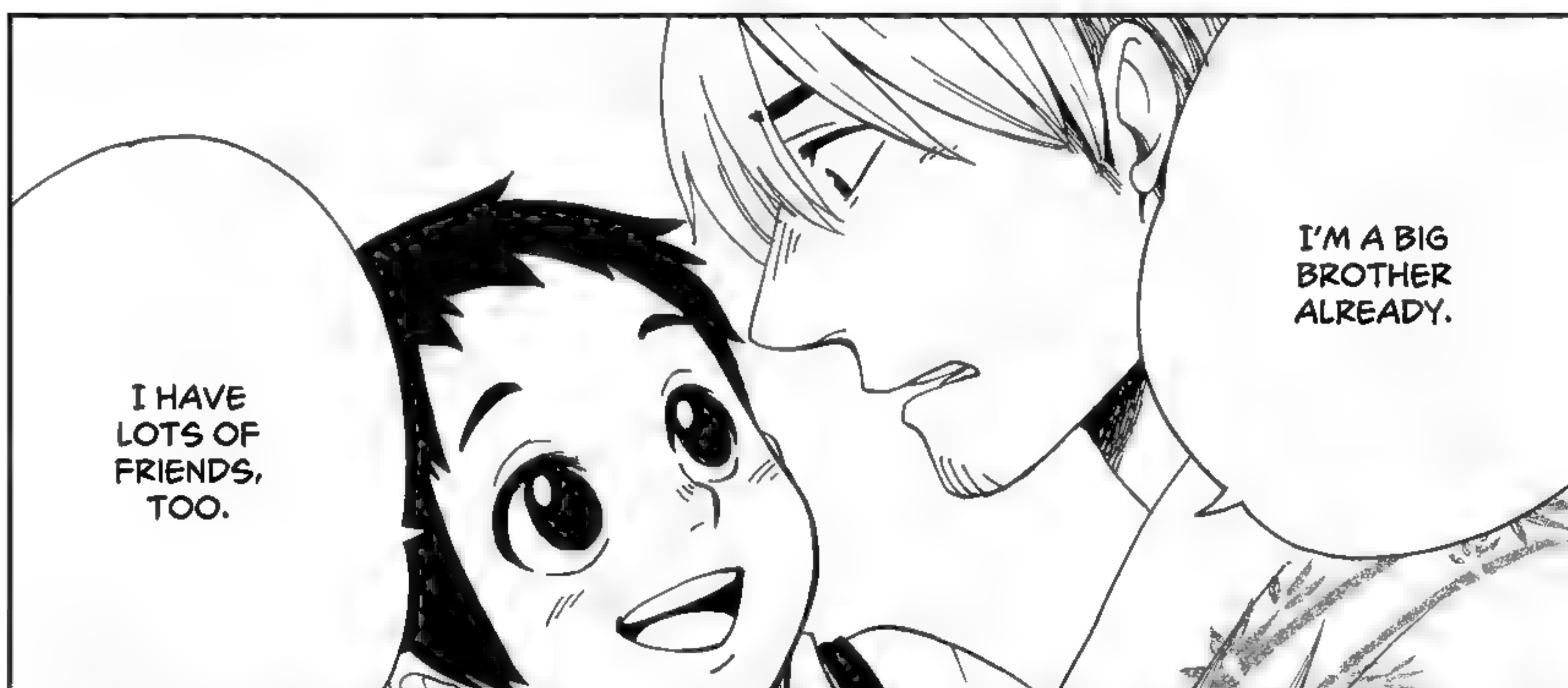
HEY...

SFX:
Grab



I'M
SORRY,
SHIROU...!

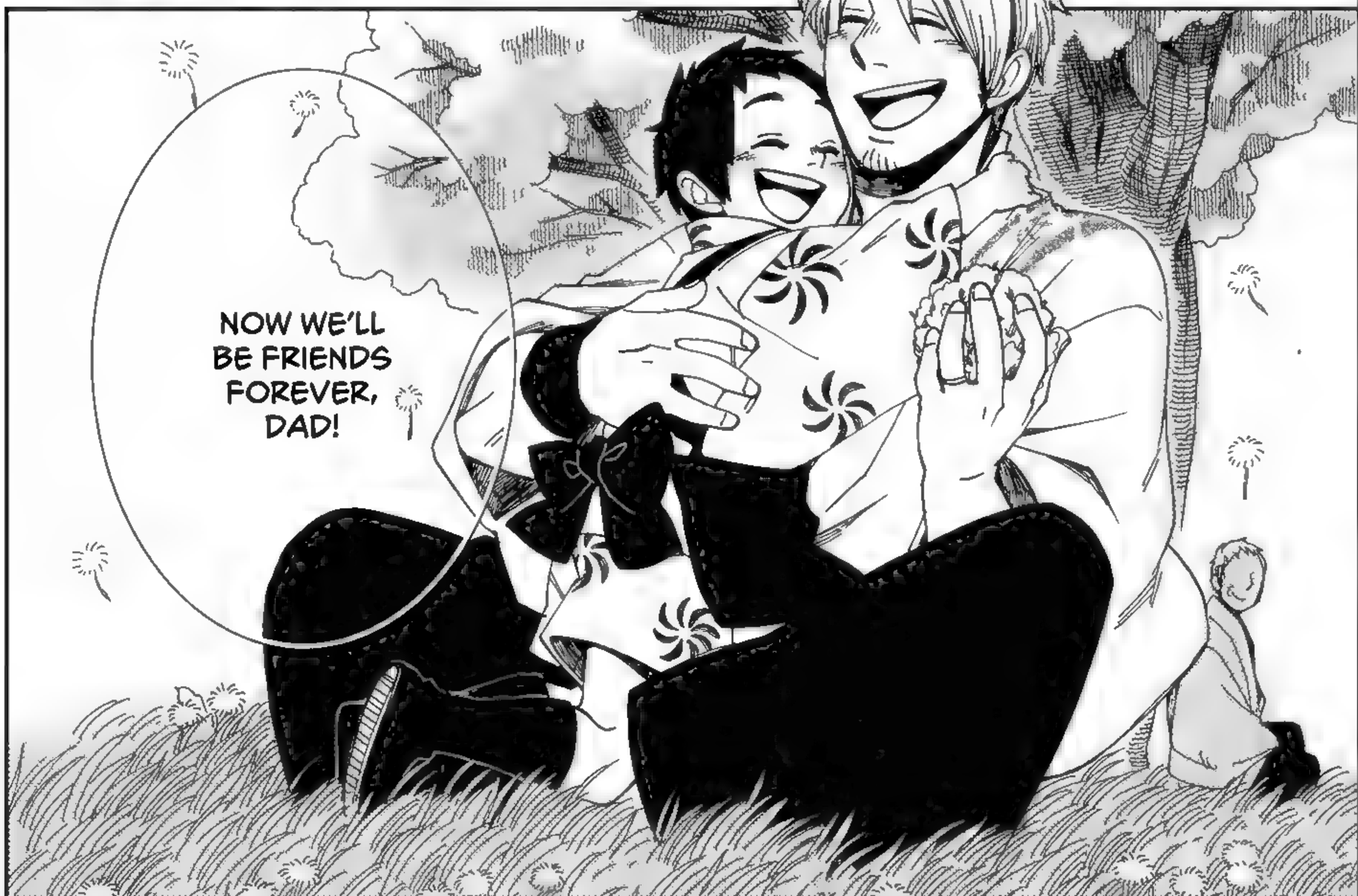
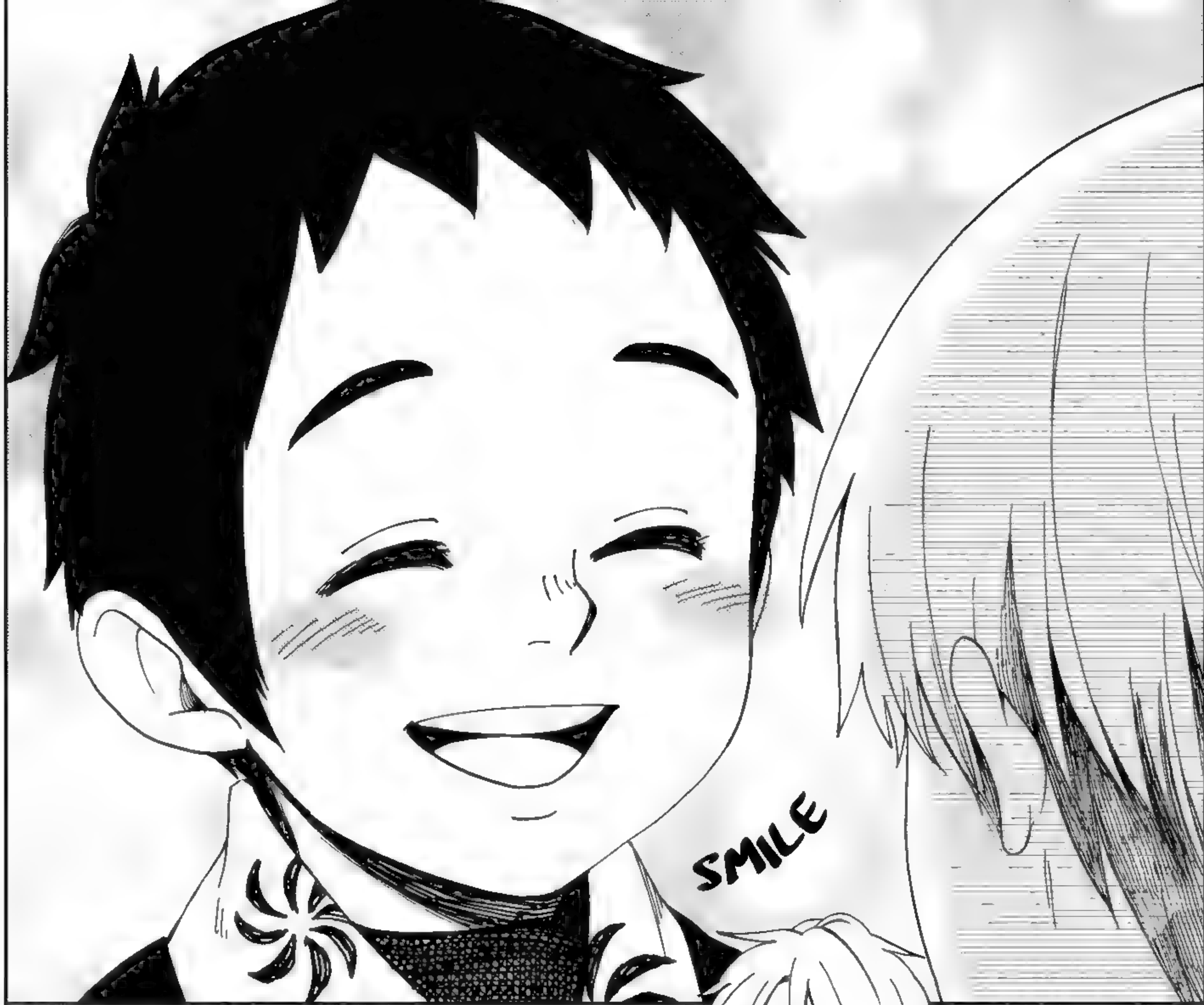




TL NOTE: SHIROU IS TALKING IN A BIT MORE GROWN-UP WAY THAN BEFORE.







Chapter 48: Departure





SFX: Dash









SFX: Bam!



TO BE HONEST, THE OTHER DAY, I MET AN ACQUAINTANCE, AND-

I DON'T CARE!!

URK!



WELL? DID YOU NOTICE THAT I LOOK DIFFERENT FROM USUAL?

IT TOOK ME A WHILE TO GET DRESSED.



He turned 6 this year, and he's finally starting elementary school next month.



SHIROU AND I HAVE BEEN SEPARATED.



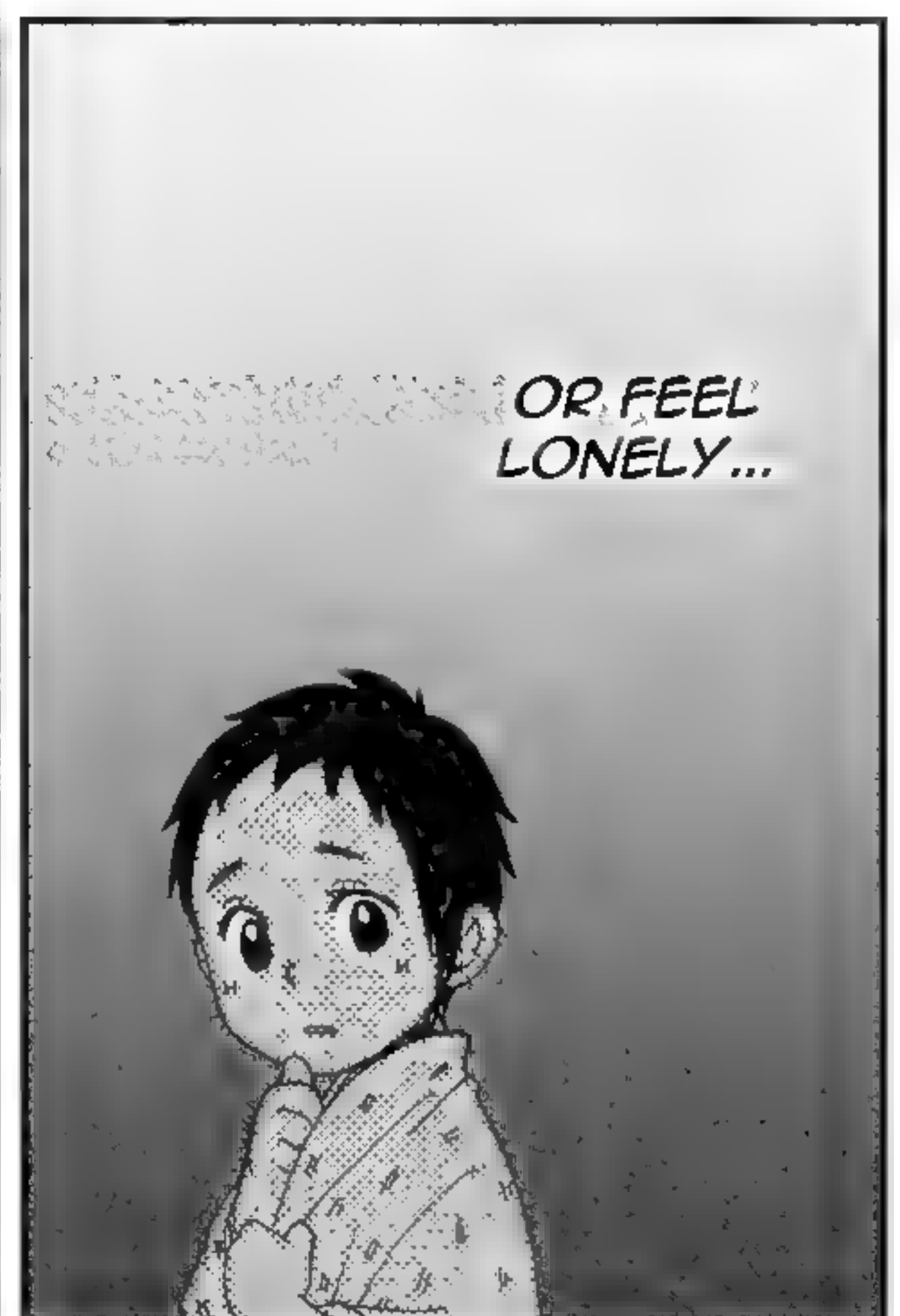
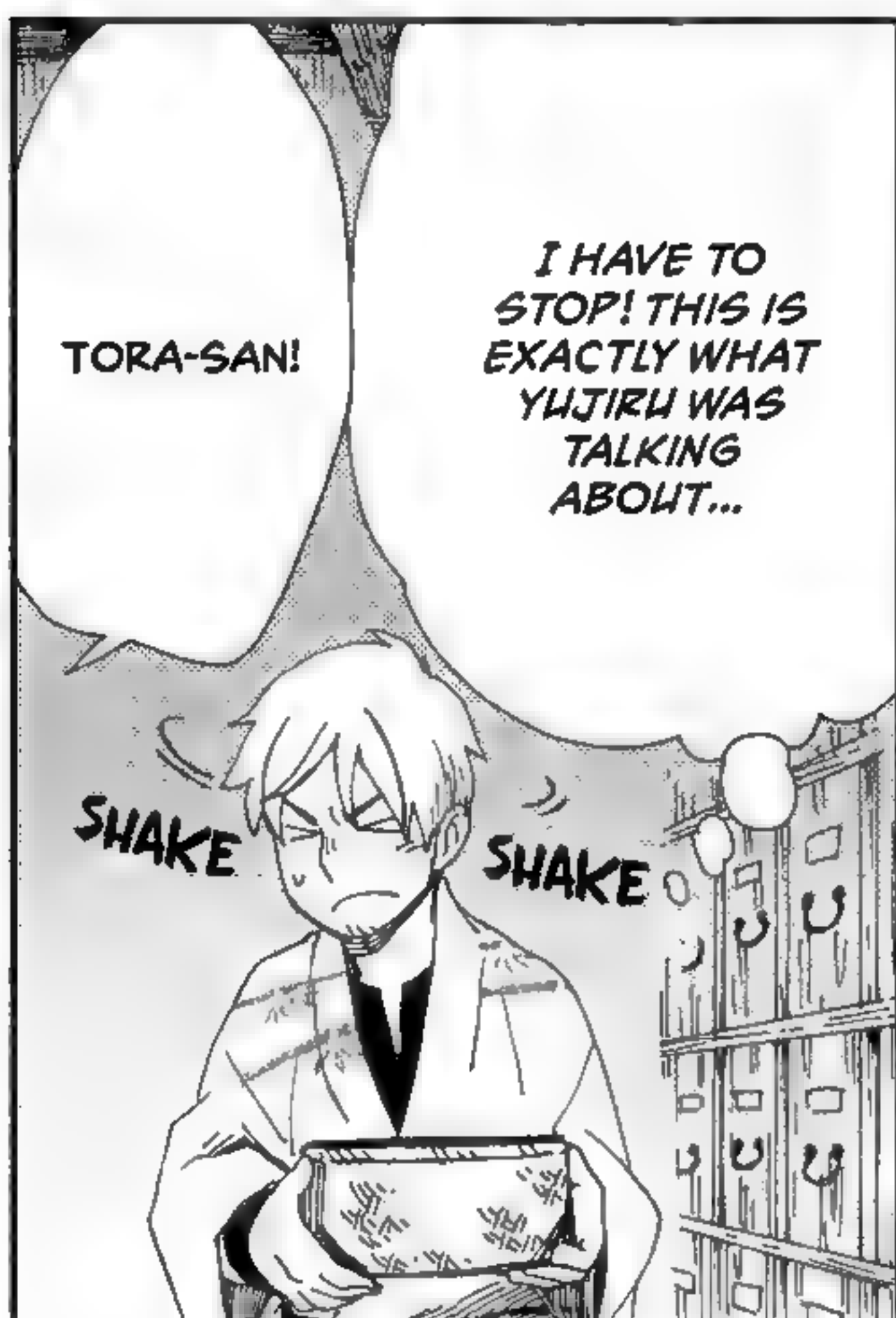
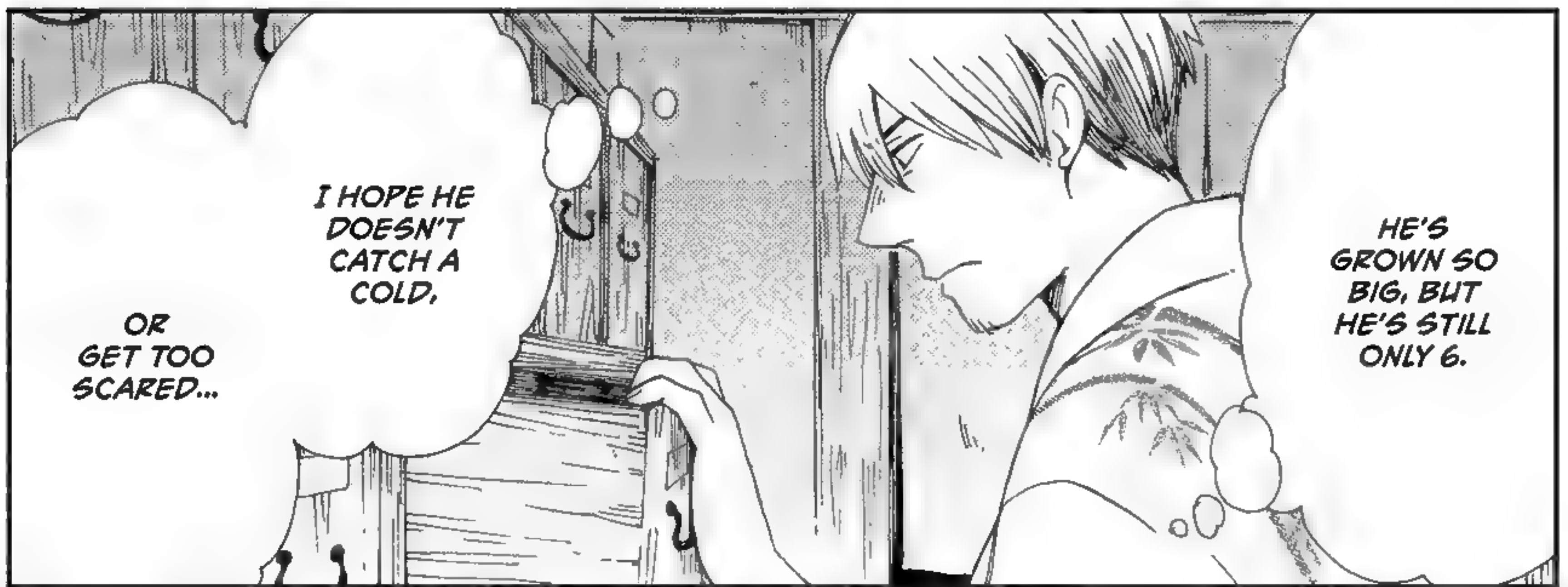
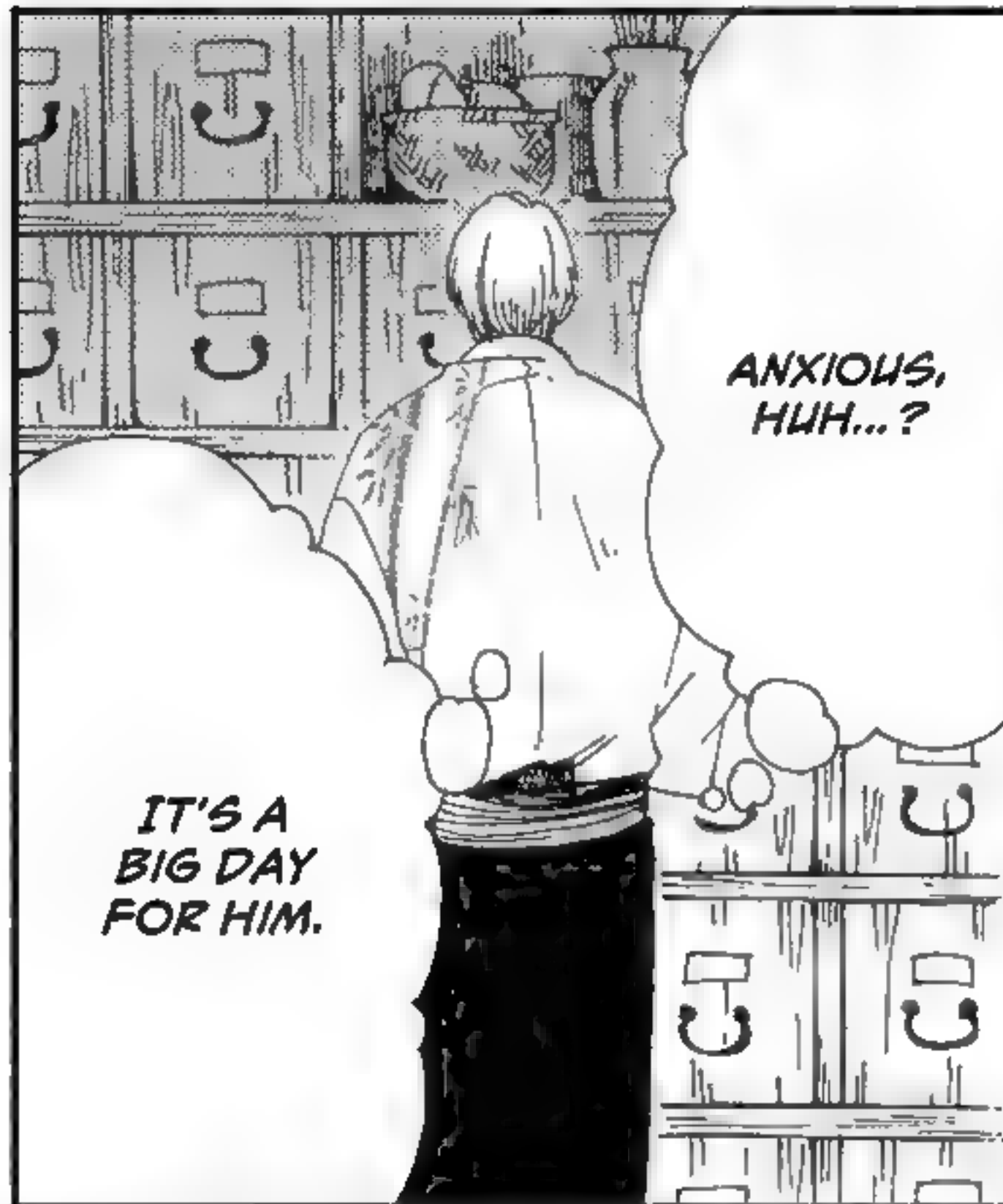
WE'RE ALREADY RUNNING LATE, I DON'T NEED YOU MAKING ME EVEN MORE ANGRY!!

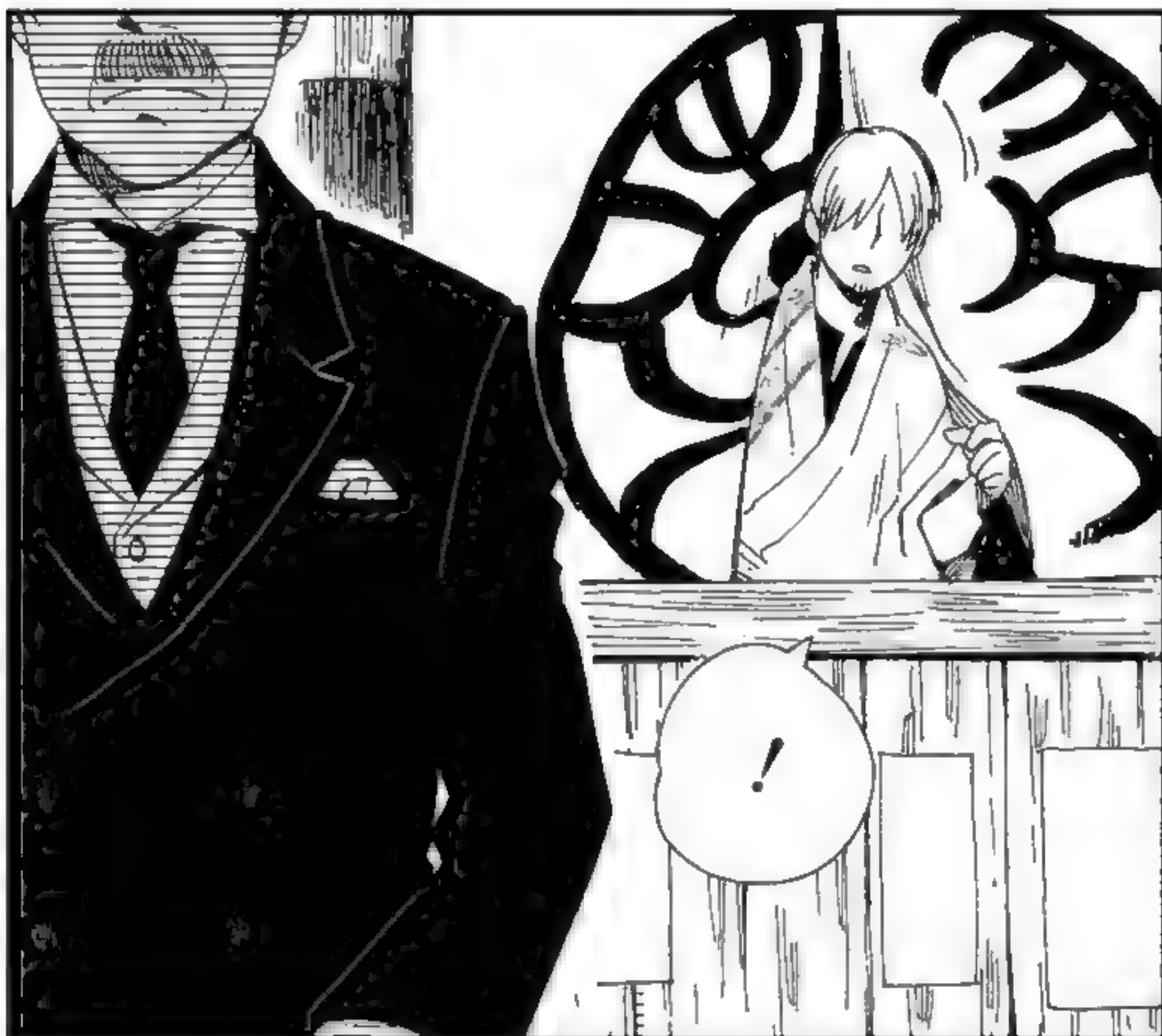
HEY!! THERE'S NO NEED TO TAKE YOUR ANGER OUT ON ME!!

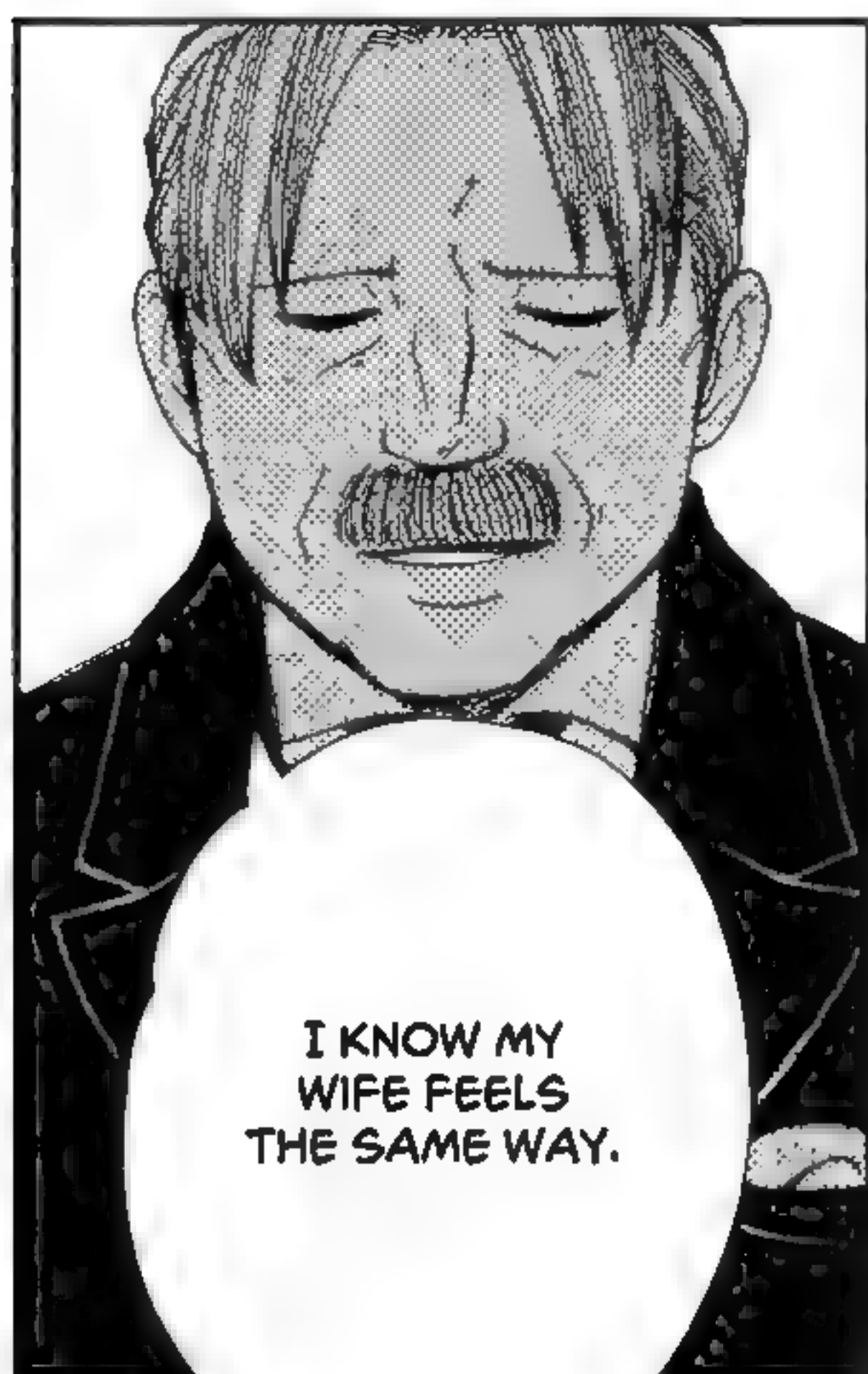
AGH

AGH

Sigh...









TAKAHIKO
DREW THE
PICTURE
THAT'S
WITH IT.

SHE TOLD ME
NOT TO MENTION
IT, BUT SHE'S THE
ONE WHO PICKED
OUT THE GIFT.

SHE DID?



...TH-

THANK YOU.



PLEASE ACCEPT
IT, YOU DON'T
HAVE TO SAY
ANYTHING.



HE SAID HE
WANTED TO
STUDY ART.



LAST MONTH,
TAKAHIKO LEFT
ON A TRIP TO
THE WEST.

REALLY...

HUH?!



THANKS TO
SHIROU-KUN,
OUR FAMILY
HAS CHANGED.



EVEN CHILDREN
WHO GREW UP
DOING JUST AS
THEY'RE TOLD
LEAVE THE NEST
EVENTUALLY.

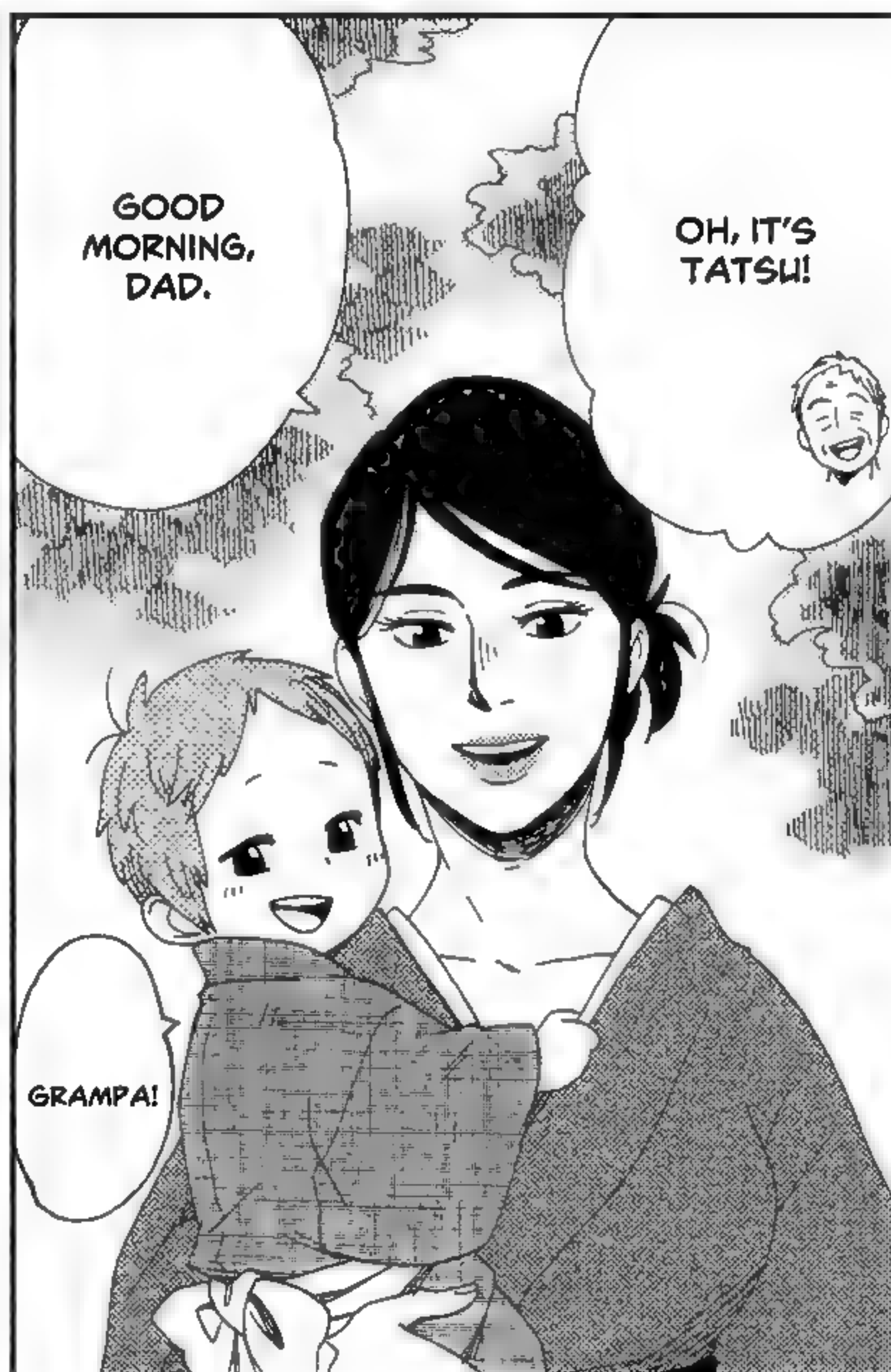
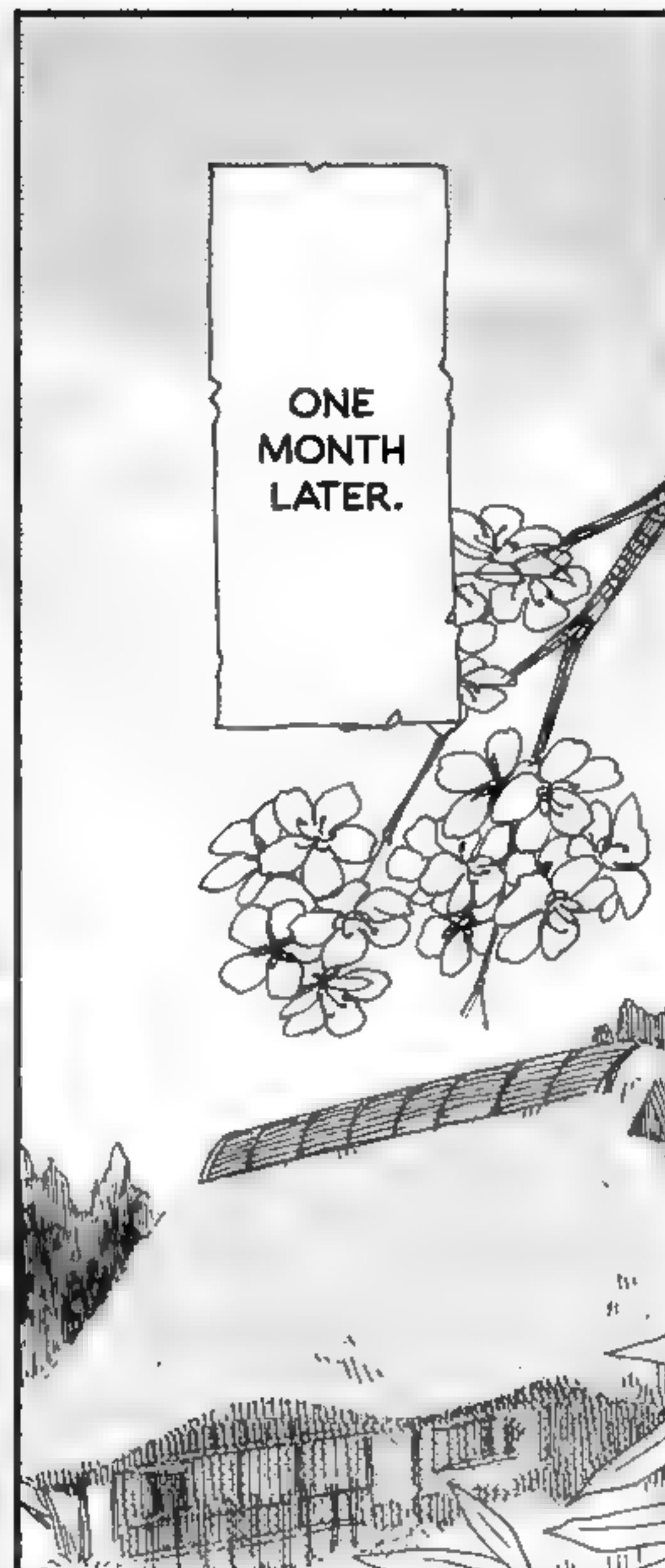
IT'S SAD,
BUT...



MY WIFE WAS
STRONGLY
AGAINST IT
AT FIRST,
BUT SHE
EVENTUALLY
GAVE IN.

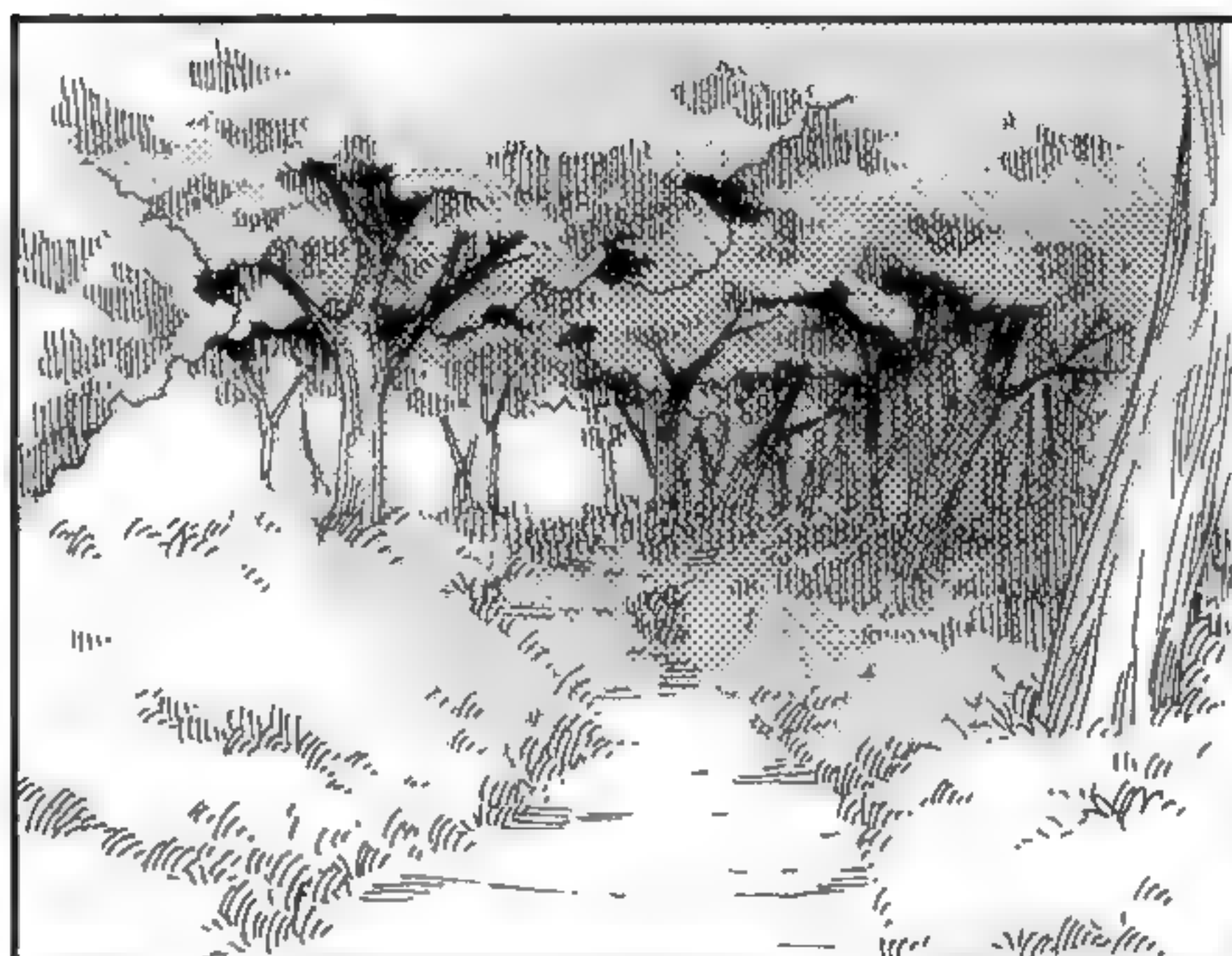
BEFORE,
SHE WOULD
ABSOLUTELY
NEVER LET HIM
LEAVE, AND HE
WOULD HAVE
NEVER FOR-
GIVEN HER.

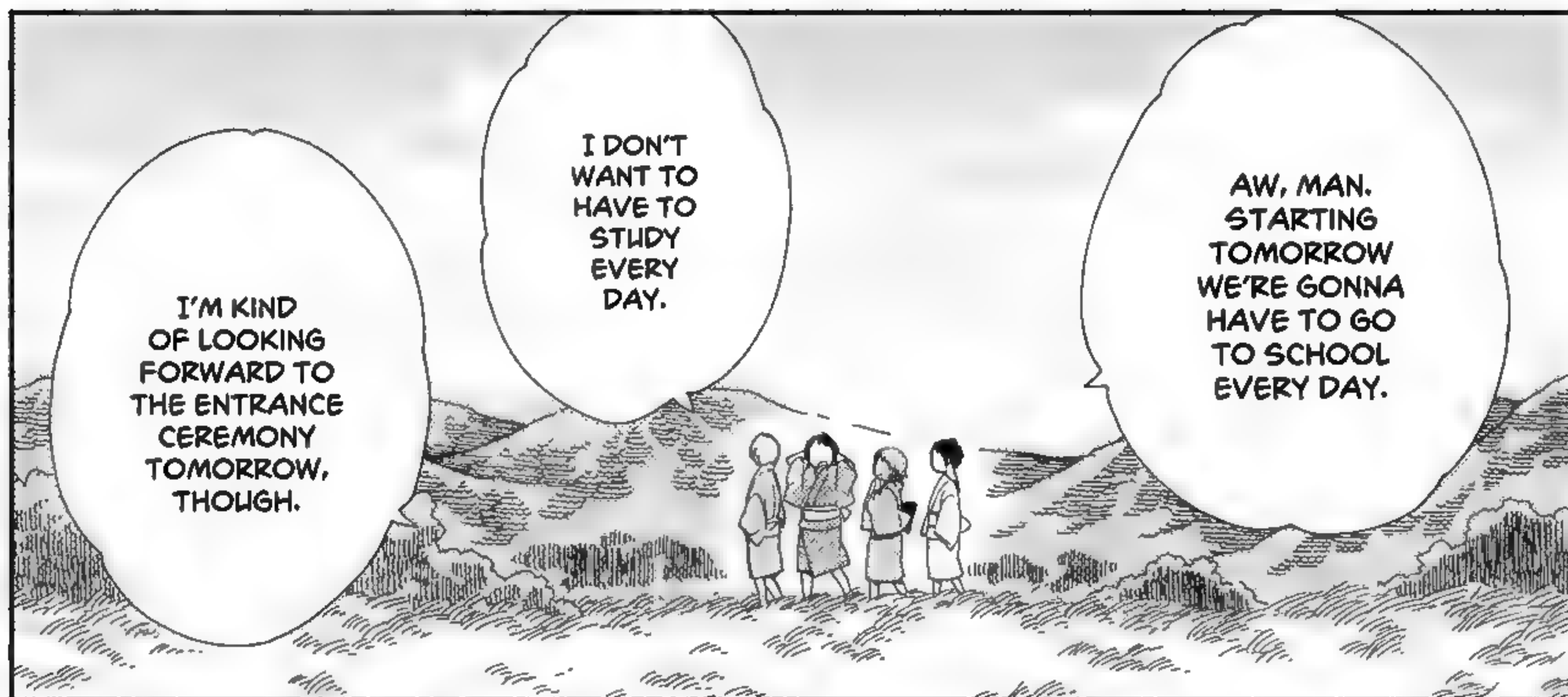














WELL, SEE YOU
TOMORROW!



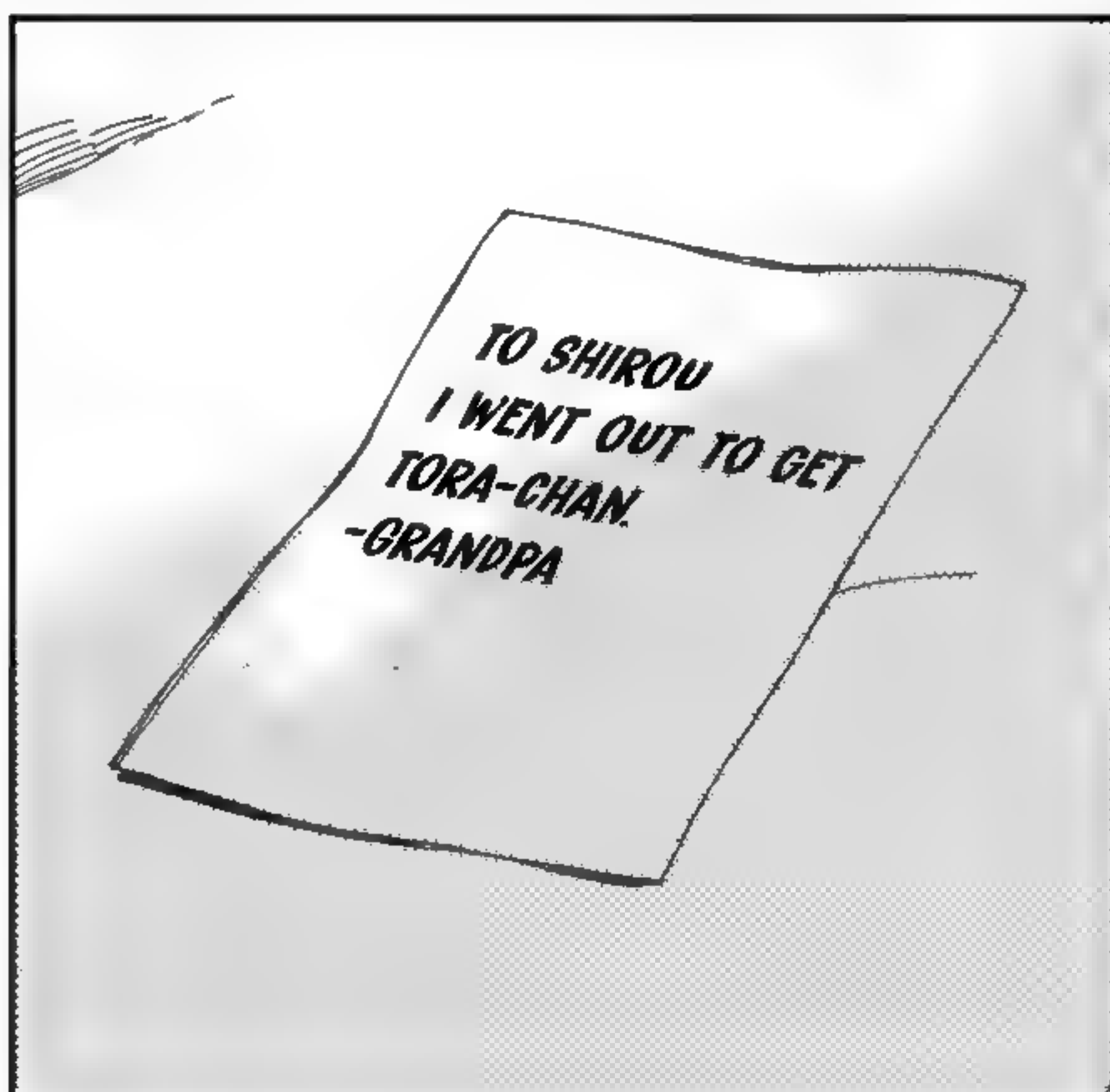
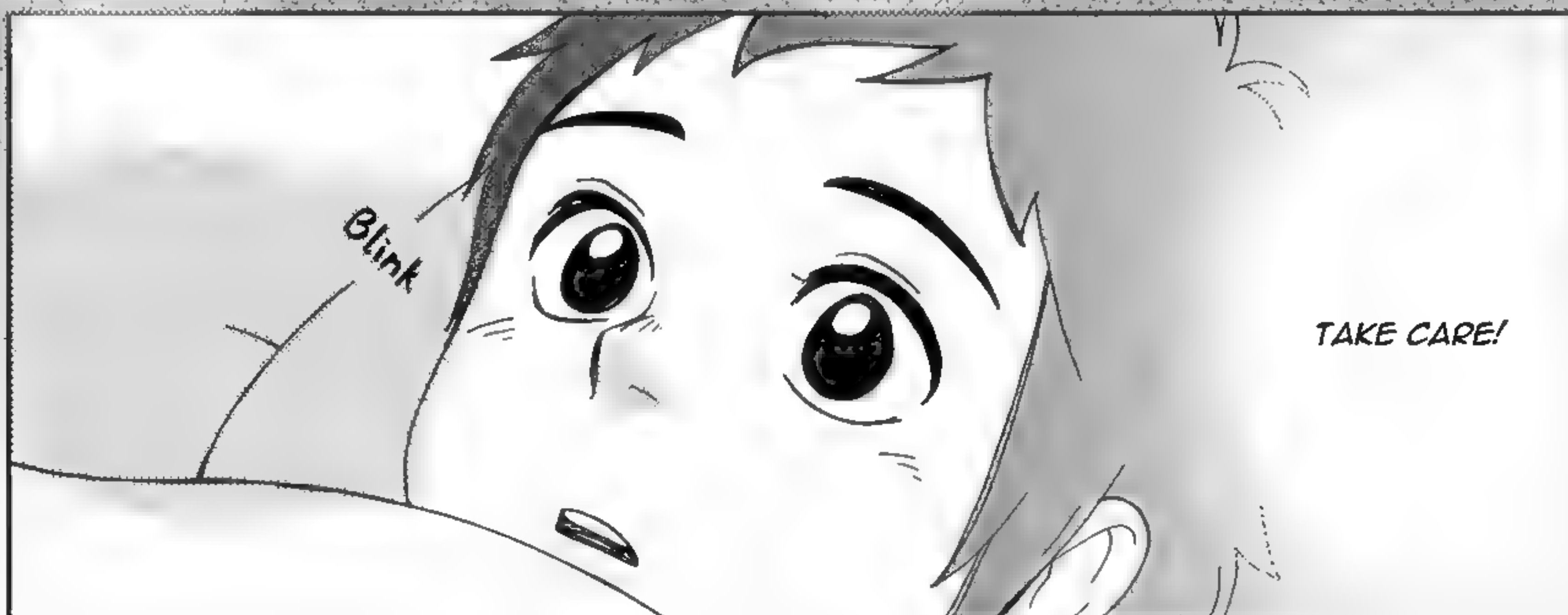
GRANDPA,
IS DAD
BACK YET?

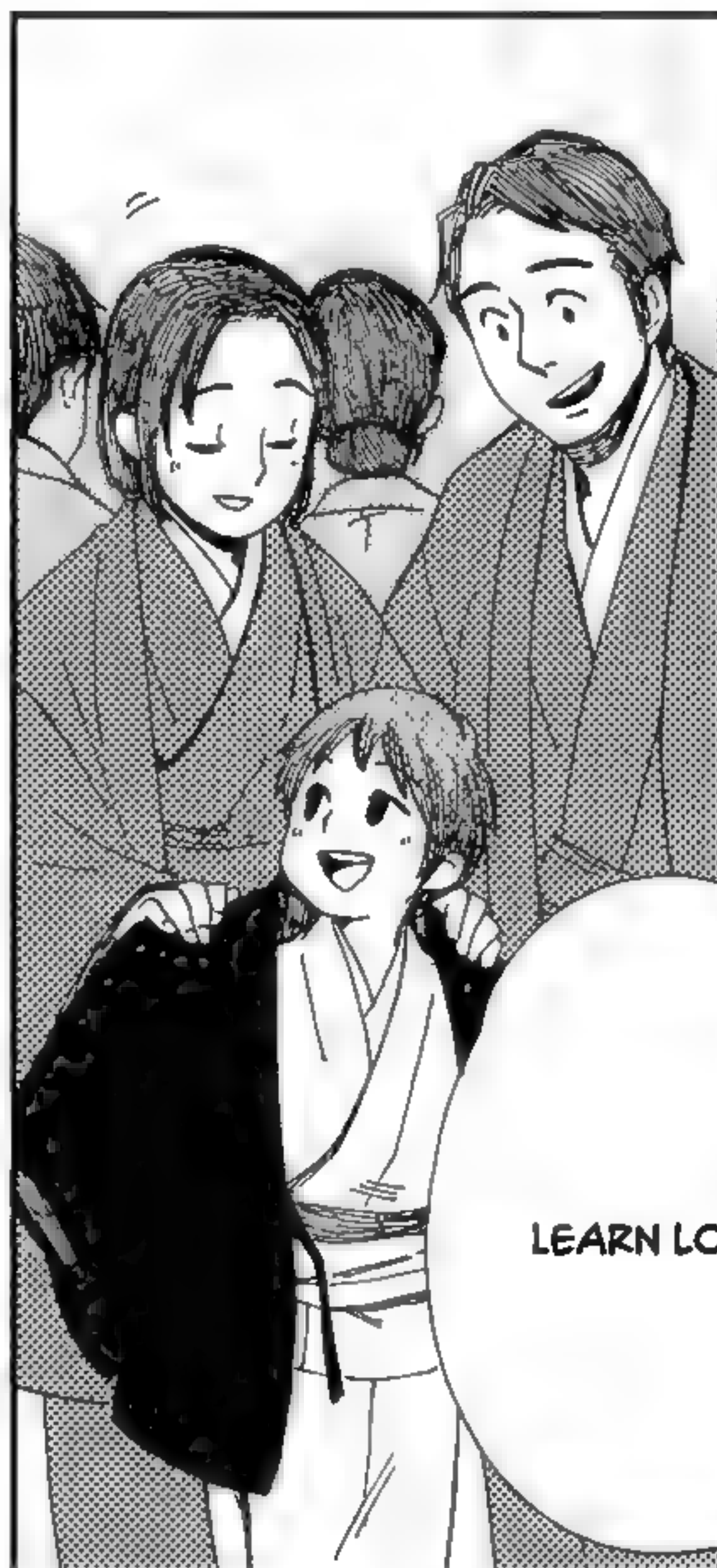


RATTLE













THAT'S
RIGHT.

GET
READY?
FOR THE
ENTRANCE
CEREMONY
AT THE
SHRINE?

I'M GLAD I
FOUND YOU.
YOU SHOULD
GET READY
SOON.



COME
OVER
HERE.

KOUTA-
ONIICHAN!



THEN YOU'LL
WALK TO
THE SCHOOL,
WHILE ADULTS
CONGRATULATE
YOU ALONG
THE WAY.



FIRST THE NEW
STUDENTS AND
THEIR FAMILIES
MEET HERE,
THEN THEY'RE
SENT OFF.



WELL, THE
SHRINE IS
JUST WHERE
YOU START
FROM.



I'M SURE SHE'S
CONGRATH-
LATING YOU
FROM HER NEW
SCHOOL, TOO.



HERE'S
YOUR
BAG.

THE TEXT-
BOOKS MY
SISTER AND I
USED ARE
IN HERE.



HAVE FUN!

YEAH!
SEE YOU
LATER!



OKAY!

LET'S GO,
SHIROU!

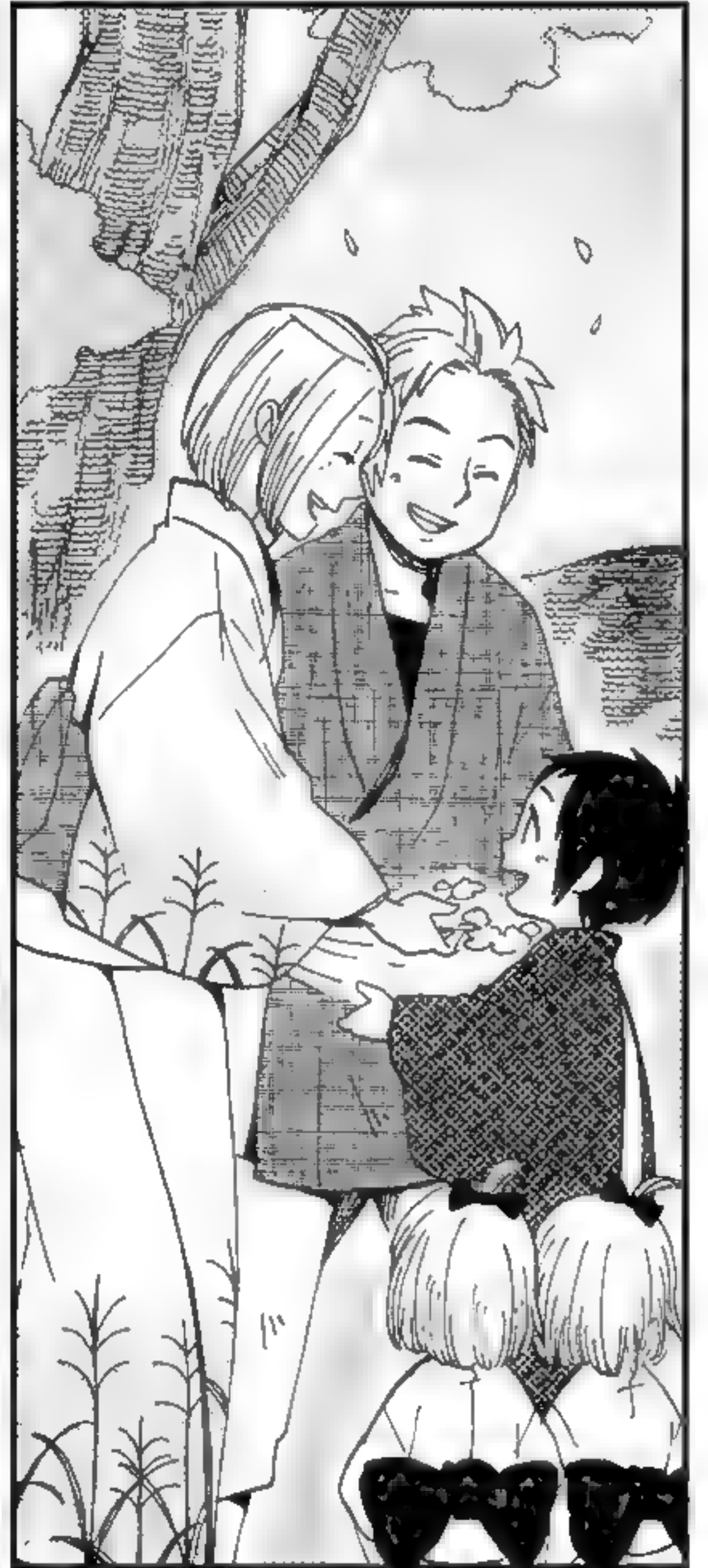
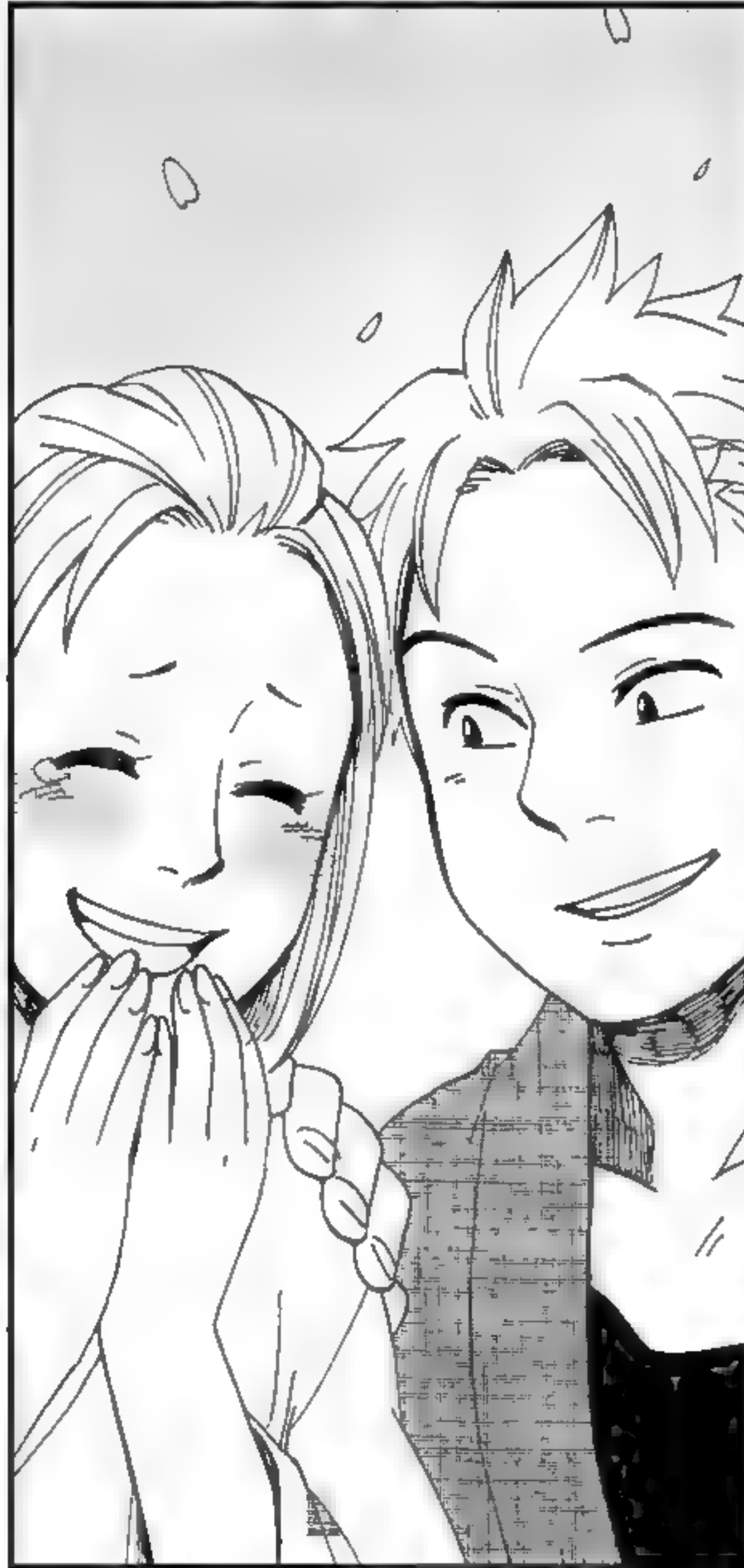
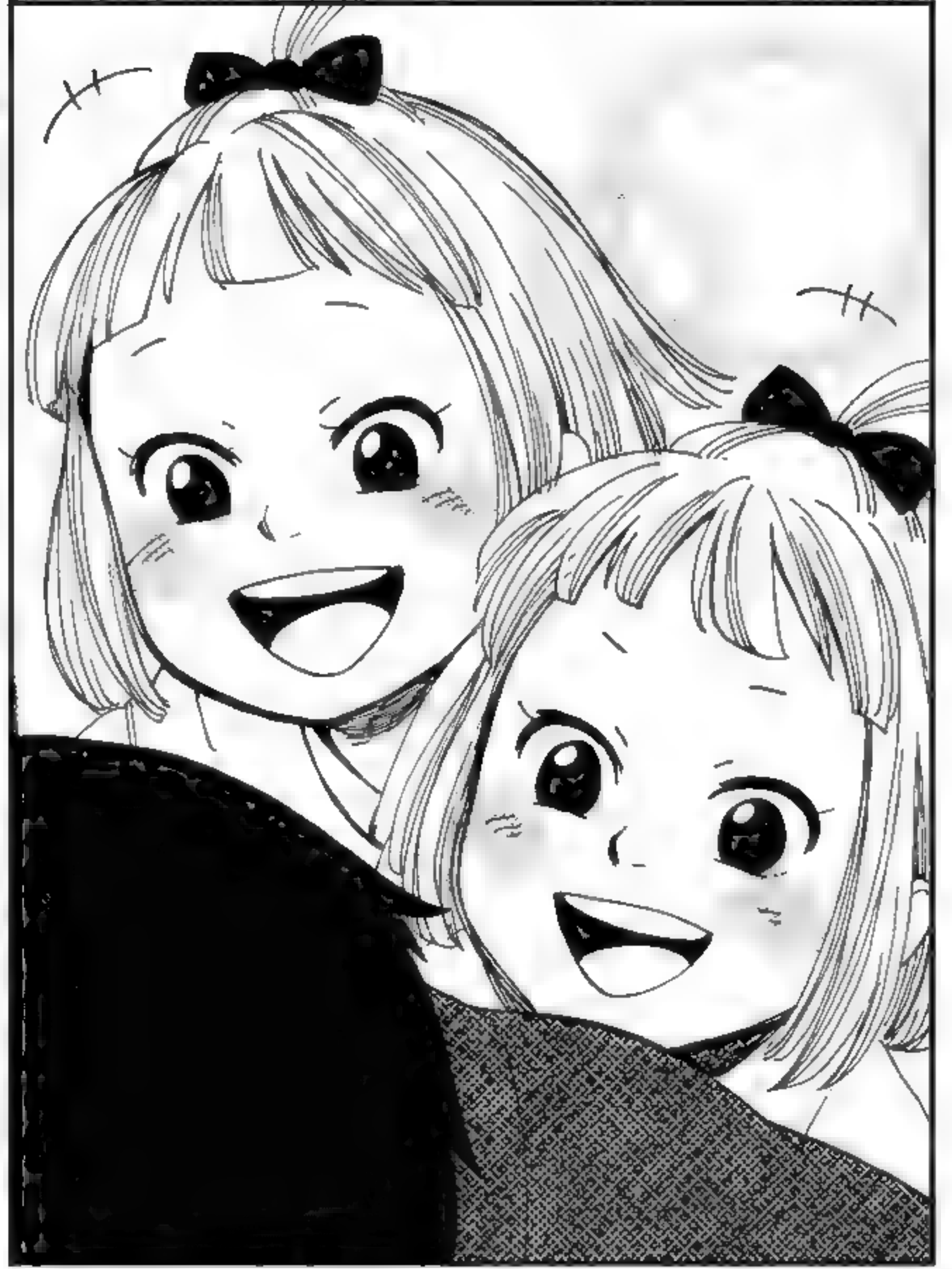
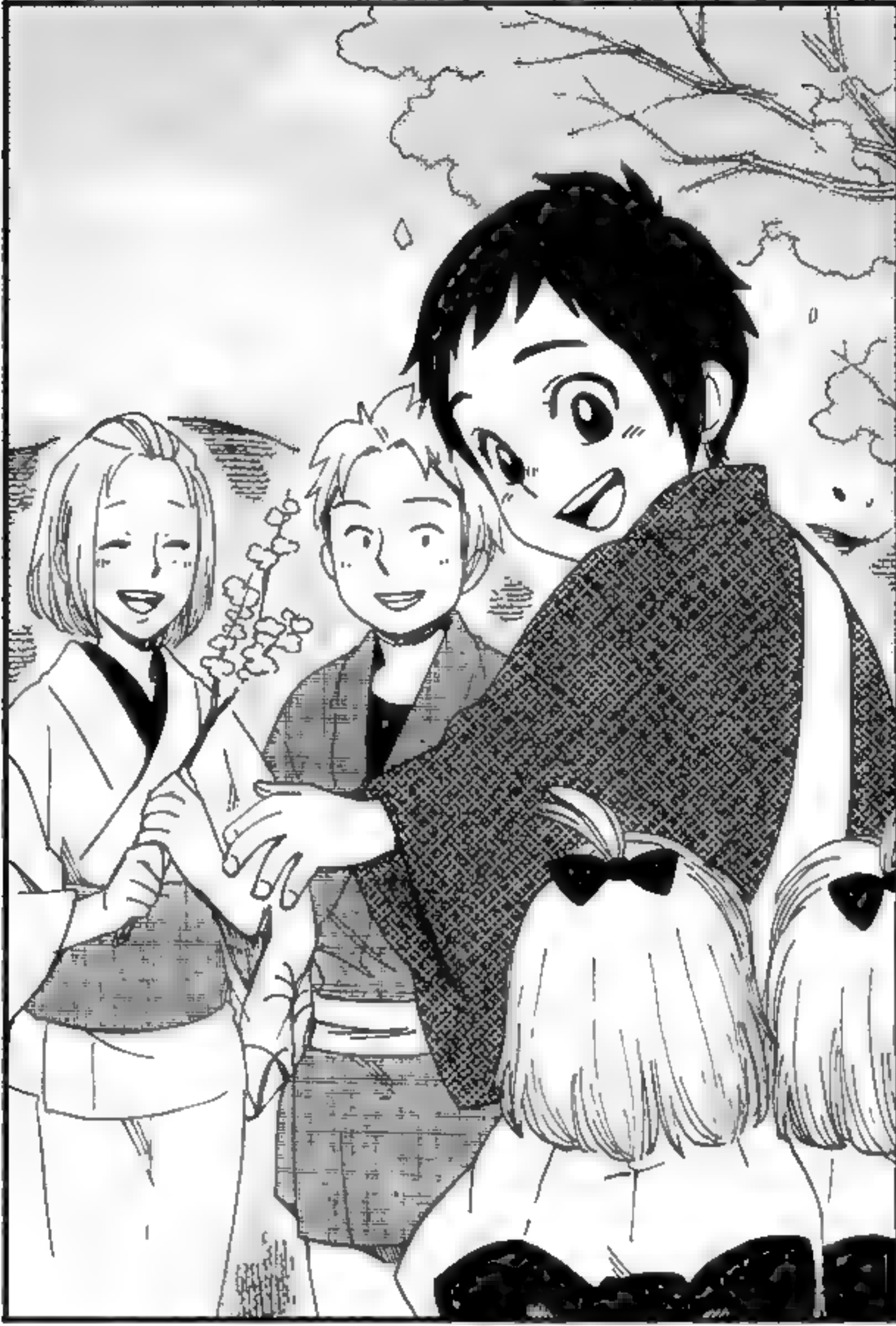


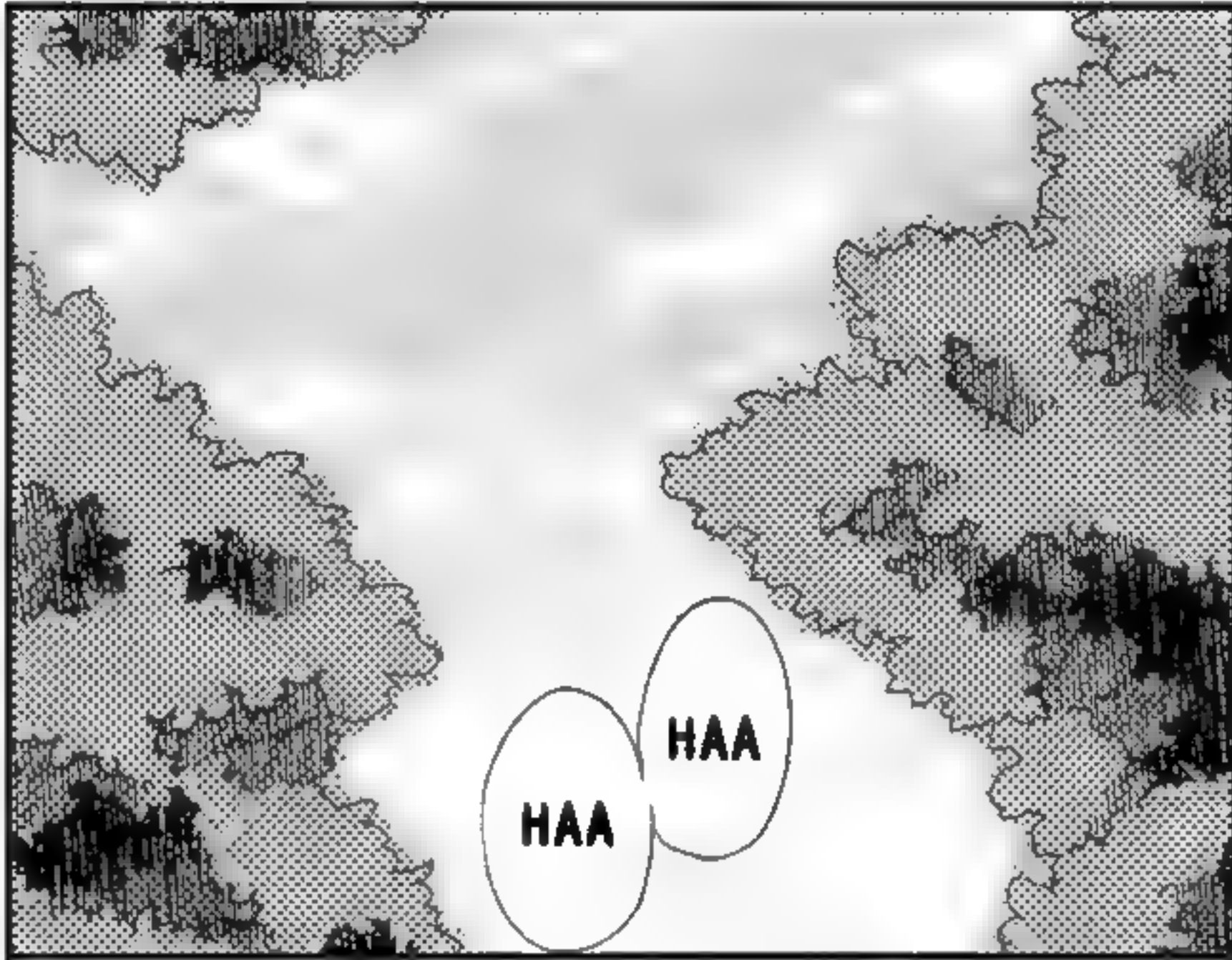
WELL, YOU
BETTER GET
GOING!

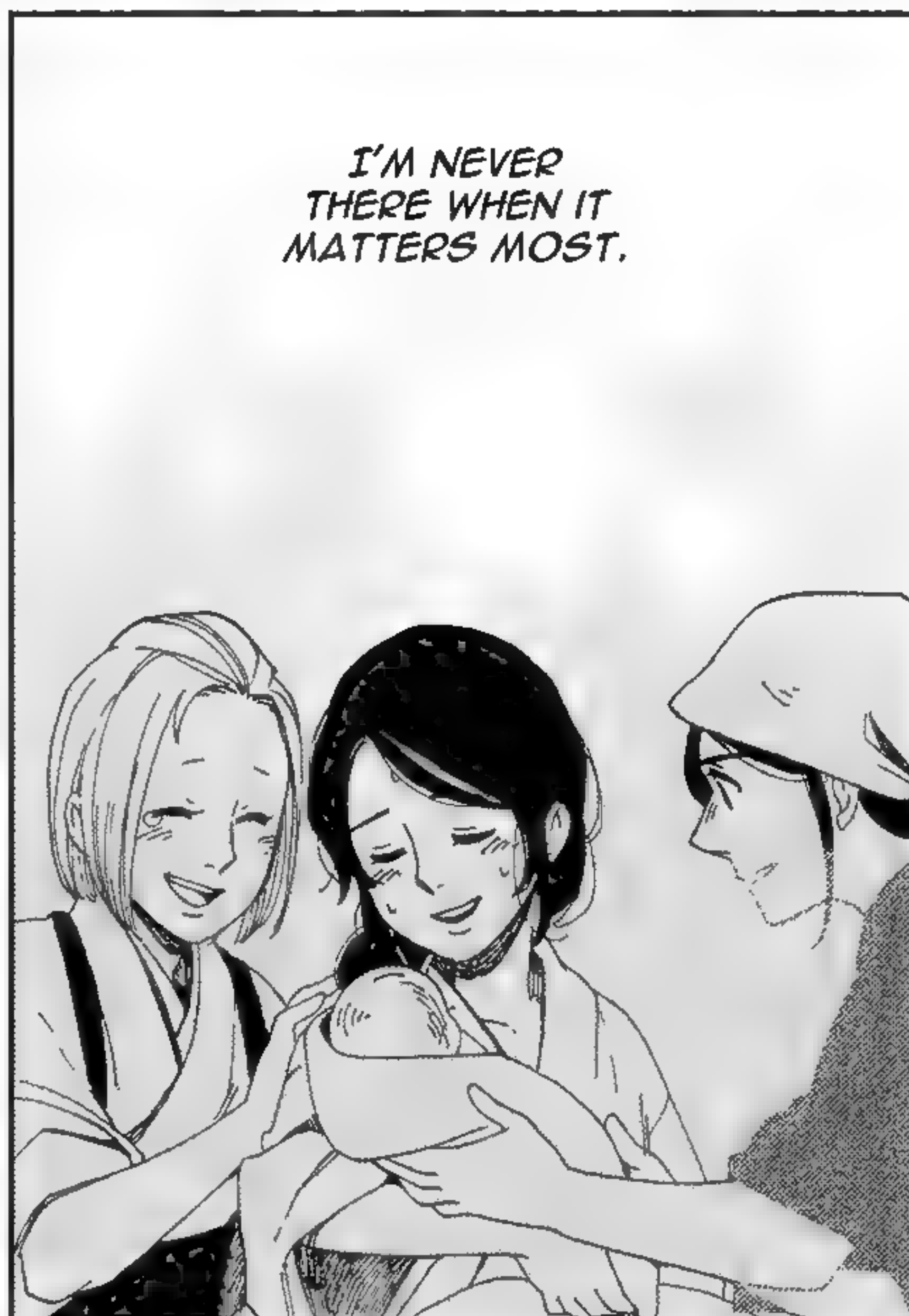
TH-THANK YOU!



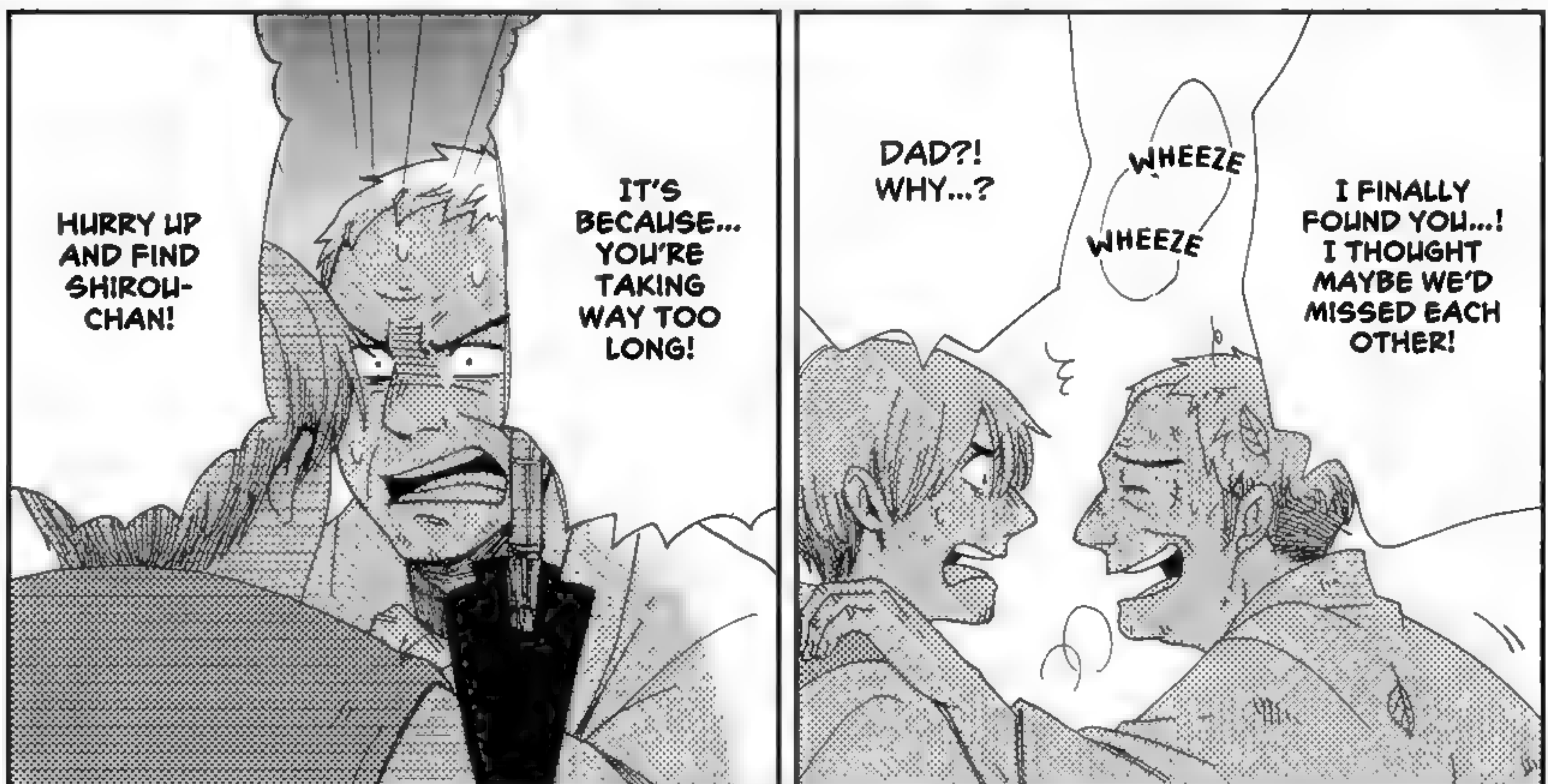








SFX: Rustle





I'M SORRY,
SHIROU.



I AM!

HURRY
UP!

RUN

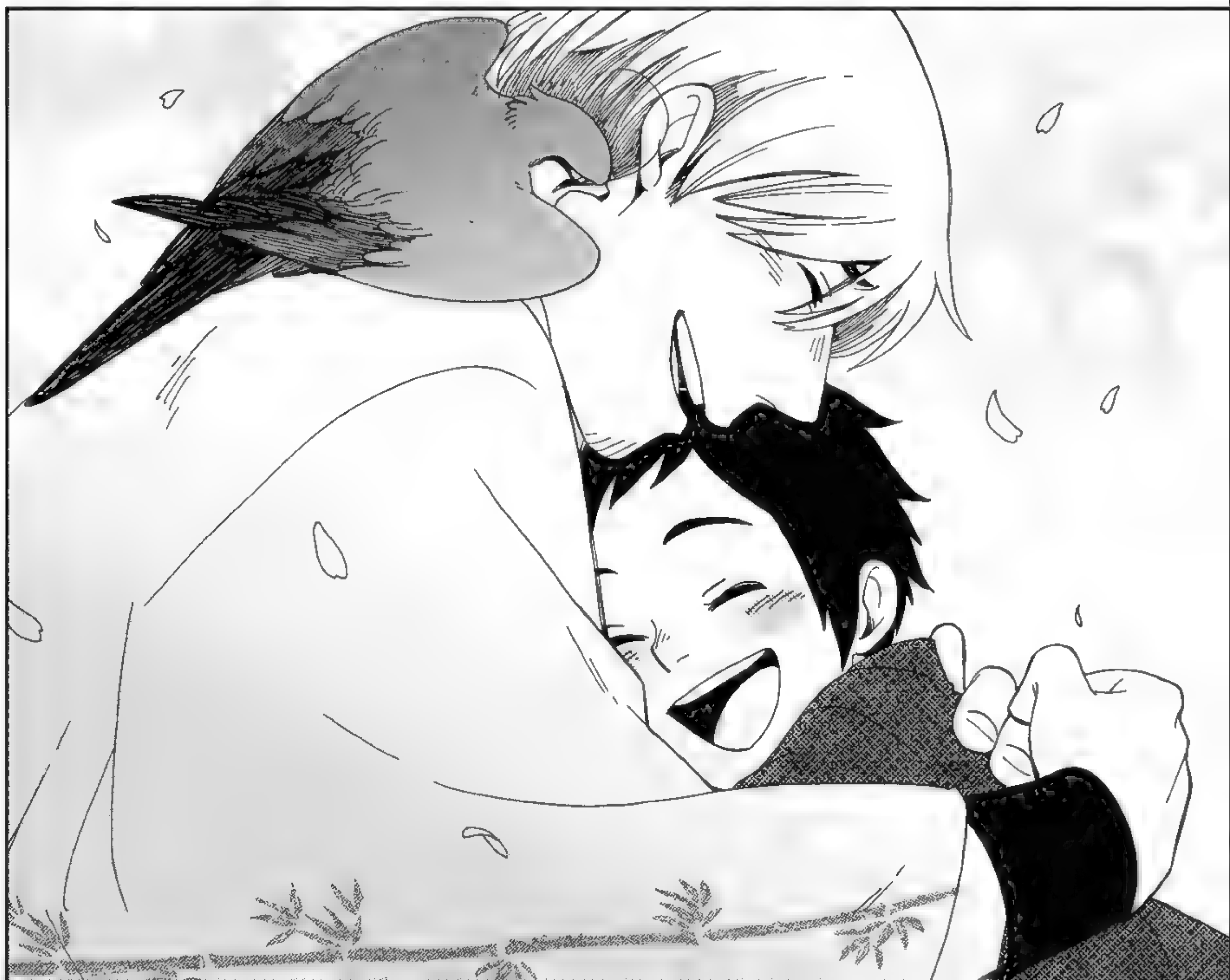
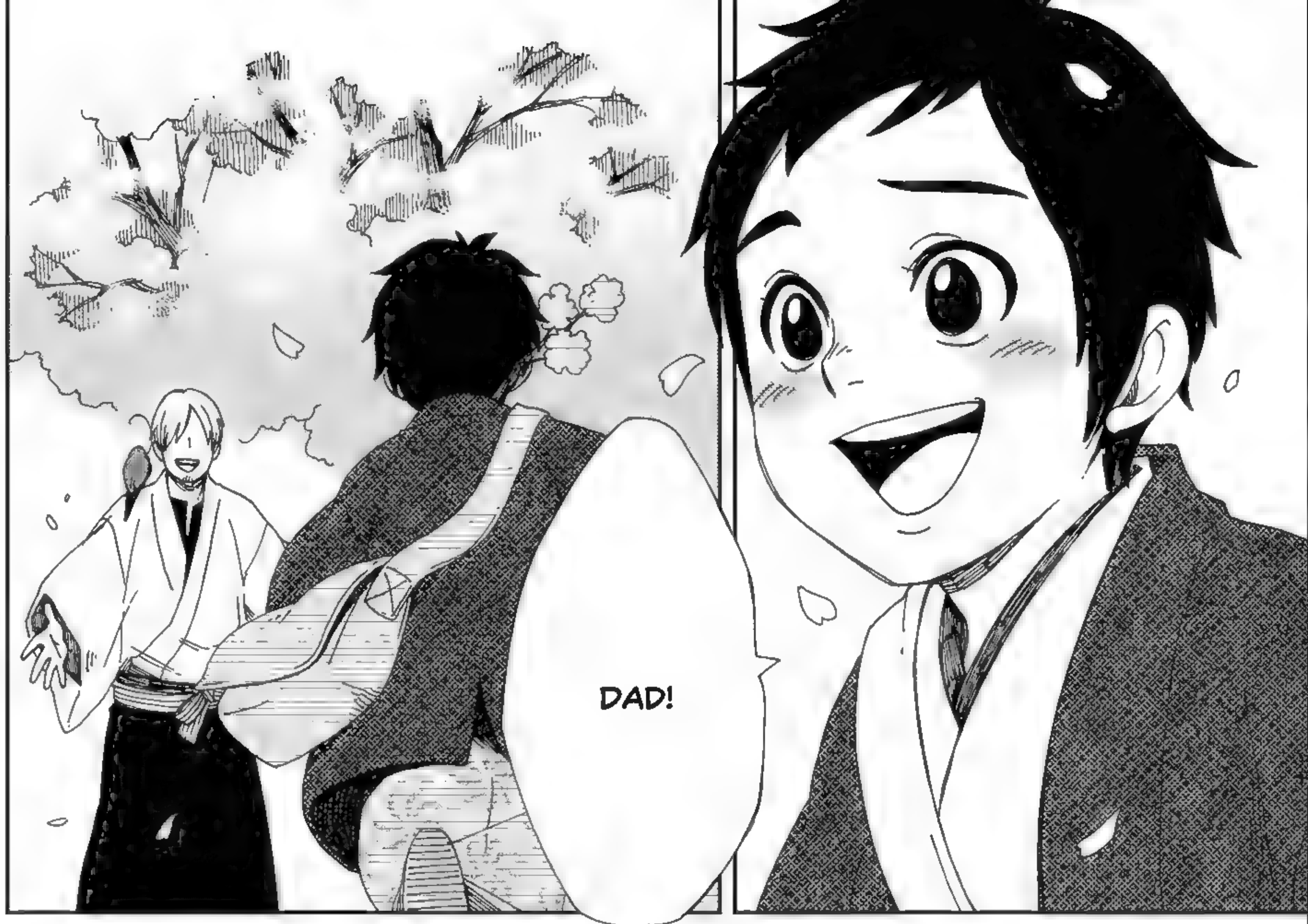


I'M ON
MY WAY...!!

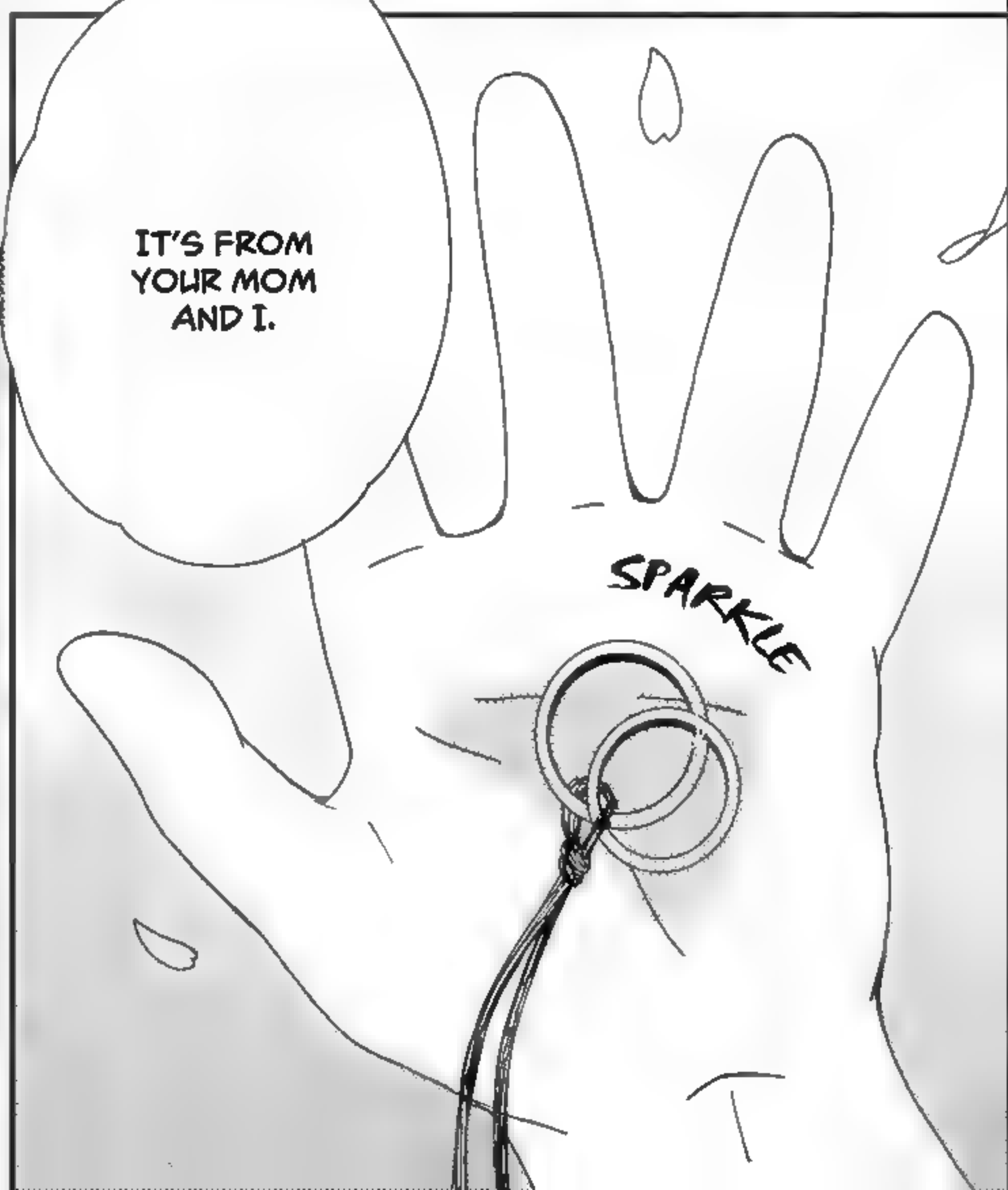
YOU CAN
GET TO THE
SCHOOL IF
YOU GO
THROUGH
HERE!





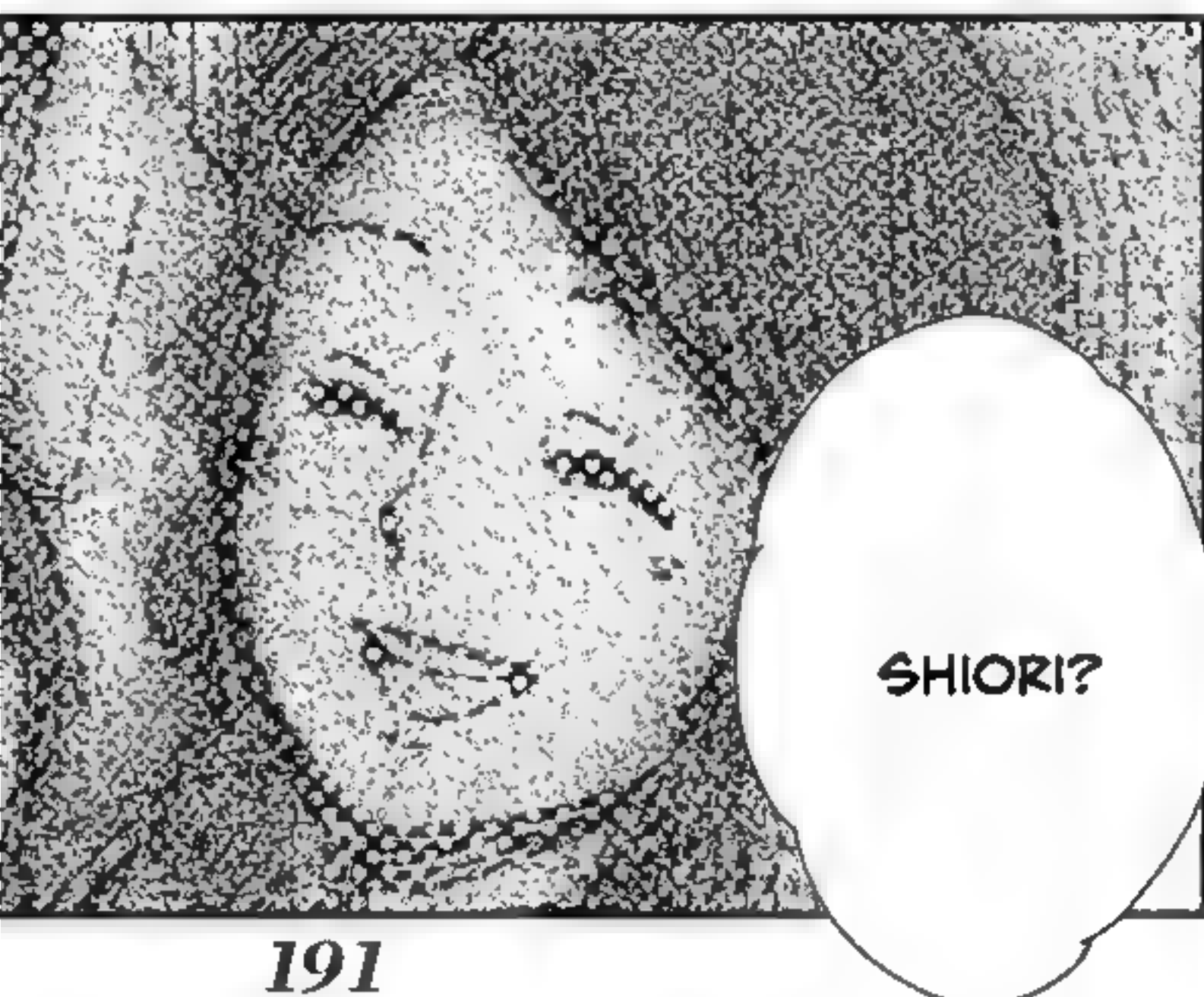
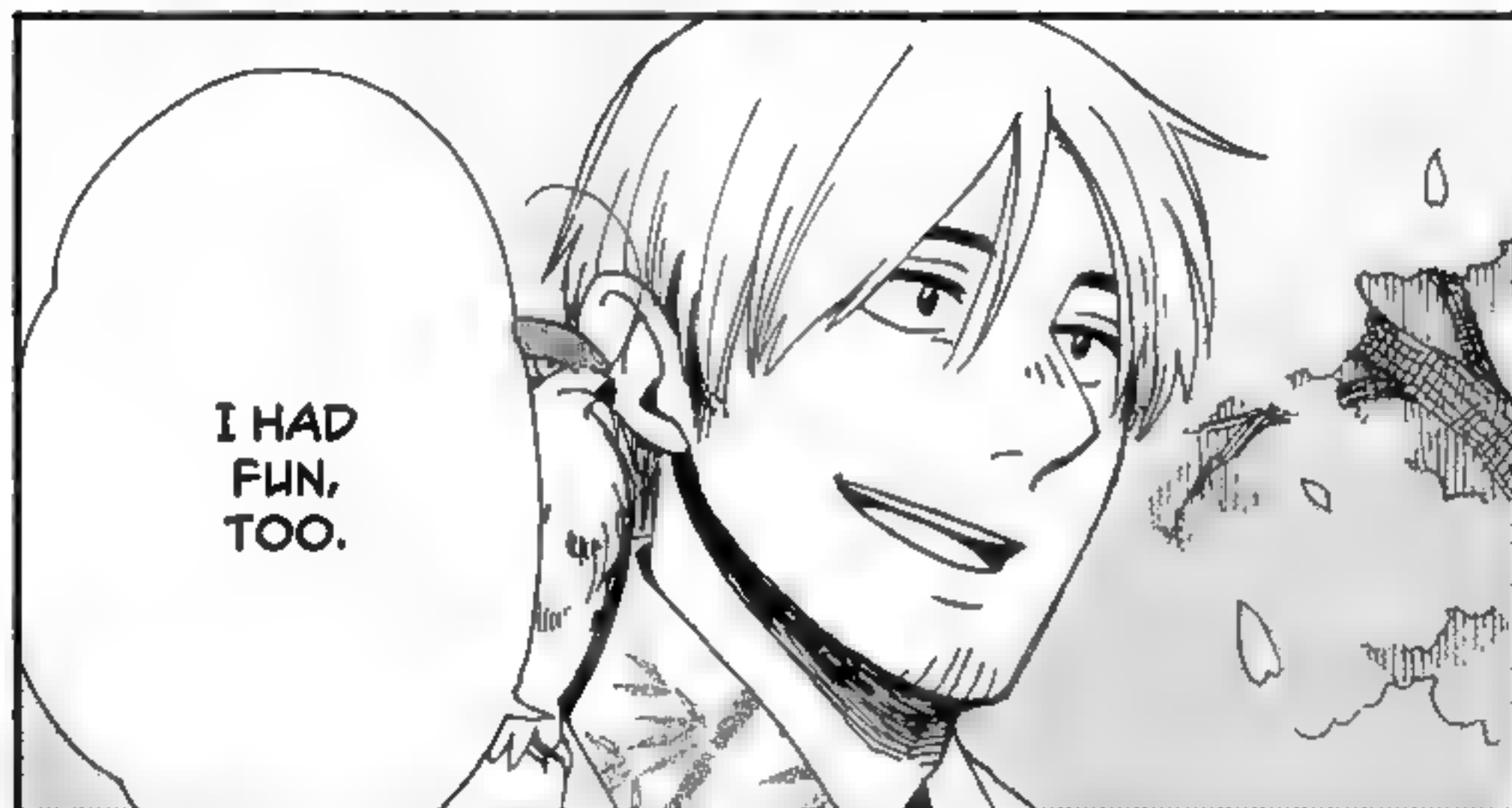












I HOPE YOU'LL
KEEP WATCHING
OVER HIM FROM
NOW ON.



* THE END *

あとがき

連載を始めて貰った当時

一歳になったばかりだった一番上の娘が

ミロウと同じ小学校一年生になりました。

子どもがいつの間にか三人になりました。

バタバタした中での初連載でしたが

こうして無事に物語を完結させる事が

できたのもひとえに読者の皆様のおかげ

お陰です。最後まで支えてくだ

サリ本當にありがとうござい

ました。また別の作品がお会い。

しましゅうね！

1101-1011





トラ吉とシロウの不器用な
父子旅はこの巻でひとまず
終着となりました。
最後まで描かせて貰えて
幸でした。

どうもありがとうございました！



妻シオリの実家とも

和解したトラ吉。

しかしトラ吉には新たに

大きな仕事が舞い込み、

シロウの就学を考えると、

父子二人での旅に

限界が見え始めていた…。

ち
ち
こ

ぐ
す





THEY'VE
ALL HAD A
HARD TIME,
EVER SINCE
THEY WERE
LITTLE.

I HAVE
THREE
CHILDREN.

PROMISE
TO THE
FAMILY

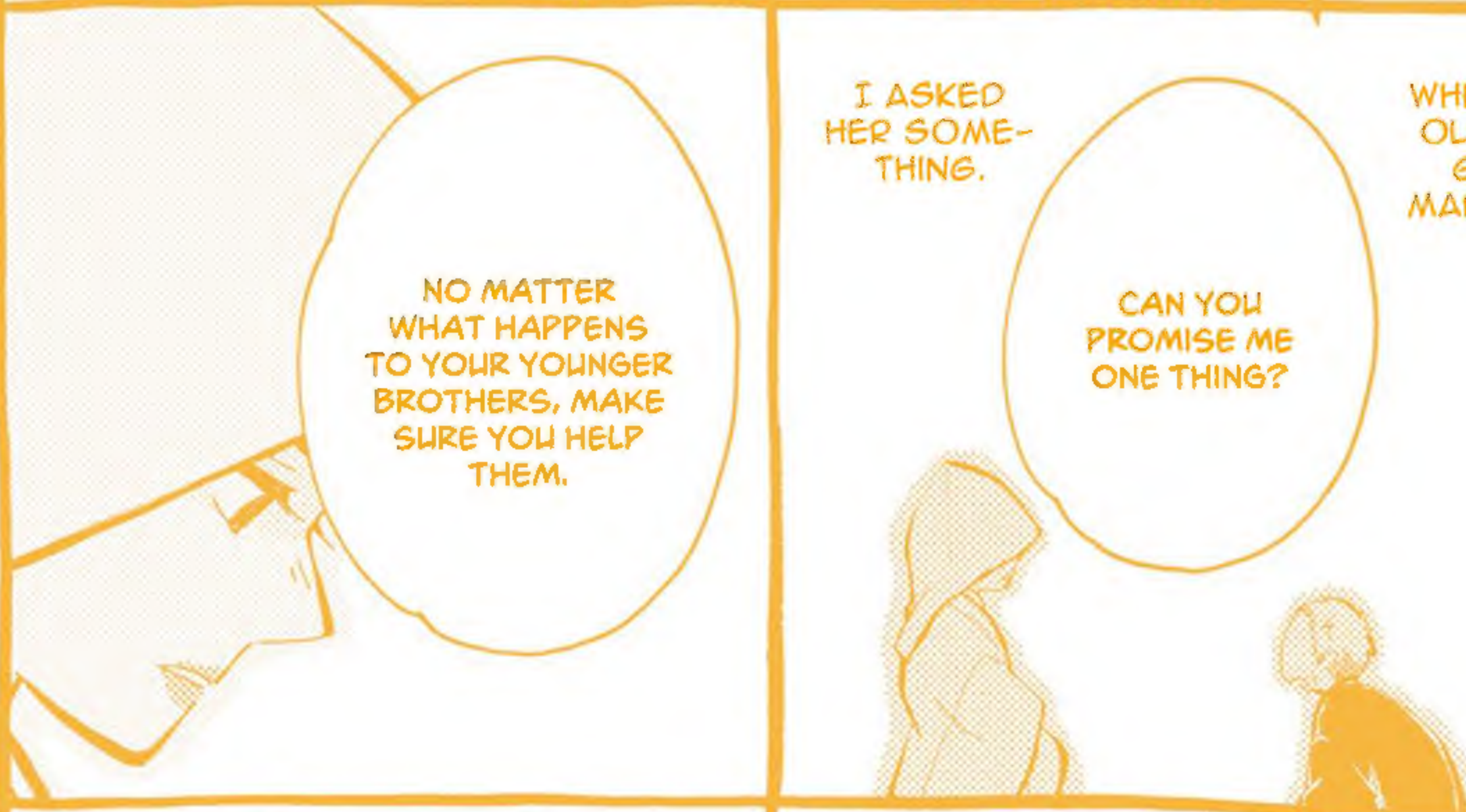


NO MATTER
WHAT HAPPENS
TO YOUR YOUNGER
BROTHERS, MAKE
SURE YOU HELP
THEM.

I ASKED
HER SOME-
THING.

WHEN MY
OLDEST
GOT
MARRIED,

CAN YOU
PROMISE ME
ONE THING?



I'M GLAD THAT
EVEN A DAD
LIKE ME CAN
BE OF USE TO
HIS FAMILY.



I DIDN'T
REALLY GET
A PROPER
ANSWER, BUT
THAT'S OKAY.